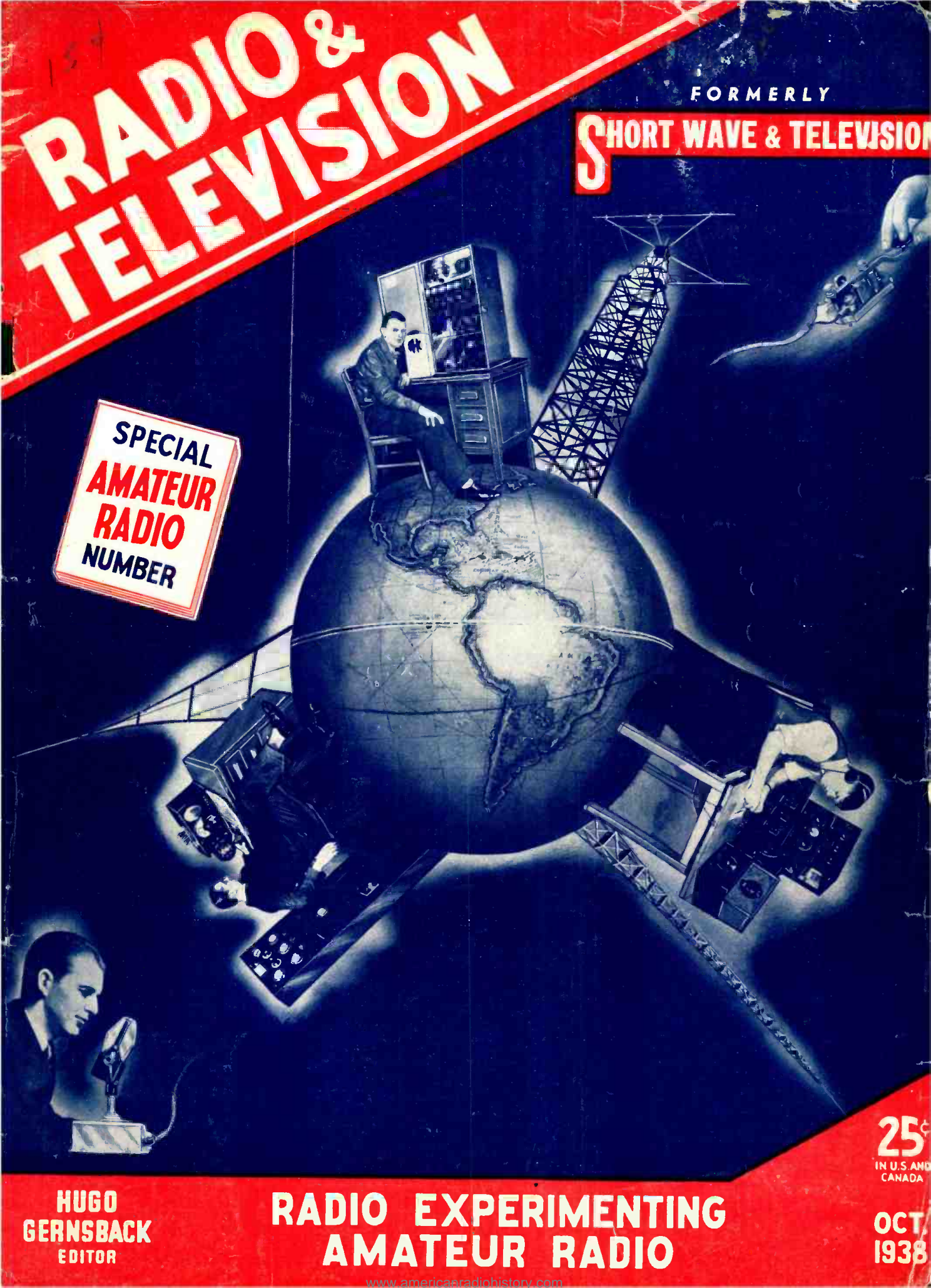


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SHORT WAVE & TELEVISION

**SPECIAL
AMATEUR
RADIO
NUMBER**



**HUGO
GERNSBACK
EDITOR**

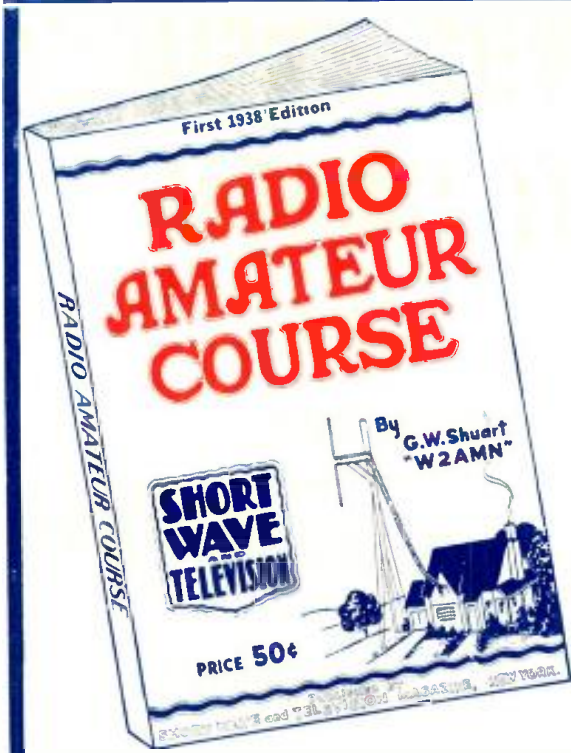
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Cover composition by H. Gernsback and Thomas D. Pentz. Photos: HAM Stations, top—C. A. Kowalski, W9KHC; right—Max Otto; left—Eric W. Vogeler, WIJXV. Antennas, top—W. S. Burkhardt, W4DLH; others—C. A. Kowalski.

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In the Nov. Issue

- A 110 Volt D.C. Transmitter—Herman A. Yellin, W2AJL.
- A Versatile Cathode-Ray Monitor for the HAM Station—A De Luxe Instrument of Low Cost—C. Walter Palmer, E.E.
- A DX Aerial for Short-Wave Fans—Tom Aso.
- A 5 to 50 Meter 6-Tube Super—Harry D. Hooton, W8KPX.
- One Meter Transmitter—Nelson G. Haas and Carl A. Erbacher.
- Reception with the Flat-Top Beam Antenna—John D. Kraus, W8JK.



Here's a glimpse of the cathode-ray de luxe monitor to be described in the next issue by C. Walter Palmer, E.E. A demonstration proved that it is indeed an instrument of many uses.



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HUGO GERNSBACK, EDITOR

H. WINFIELD SECOR, MANAGING EDITOR

"RADIO & TELEVISION"

HUGO GERNSBACK, Editor

● WHEN in June, 1930, I published the first issue of this magazine under the name of *SHORT WAVE CRAFT*, the short wave art had just gotten under way and its wonders attracted many thousands of individuals. Particularly was this true of the radio experimenters and constructors who were intensely interested in building one and two tube short wave receivers, with which it was perfectly possible, even in those days, to receive radio programs from foreign countries.

As the art progressed, during the next few years, the incentive to build short wave receivers by private individuals slowed down, for the reason that commercial sets were appearing in ever increasing numbers and it became possible to buy such sets at constantly lower prices.

When a few short years ago the all-wave radio receivers made their appearance, the incentive to build one, two and three tube short wave sets was still further diminished, while today practically all radio sets that you may purchase in the open market are built for broadcast and short wave reception.

History repeated itself in this respect, duplicating the pioneer days of broadcasting. In the early 20's when you could not buy a complete radio set, the experimenter and builder had a paradise of his own. Then about 1925 the commercial radio sets made their appearance, which spelled the doom of over one million home radio set-builders—except for a group of about 100,000 builders who still continued to construct radio sets for the mere enjoyment of it. It was this class who, about 1930, graduated into Short Waves and who were kept busy constructing receivers up to the past few years, when again the commercial sets overtook them and reduced the incentive for building purely short wave sets.

By all this I do not mean that there are no radio set-builders left in the United States today. Quite to the contrary I believe their name is still legion and I know there are even today between 75,000 and 100,000 individuals left who are interested in radio building and radio experimentation.

Changing times and changing conditions naturally influence these builders. Many go into other lines, become engineers, engage in the manufacture of radio material themselves, become servicemen, etc. But in their place you

will find every year a new crop of radio enthusiasts, who as yet have not had a taste of radio experimentation and to whom the entire field is still new.

During the past few years we have not had a vital reduction in radio enthusiasts, but to the contrary there has often been a healthy increase. This may best be shown by the continuous and steady growth of those radio experimenters called *radio amateurs*, who now have rolled up **A GREATER TOTAL THAN HAS EXISTED AT ANY TIME IN THE HISTORY OF AMATEUR RADIO IN THIS COUNTRY.**

Changing conditions in radio make necessary other changes within the industry. One of the minor changes—in order to keep abreast of the times—has been the change of the name of this magazine.

For some time we felt that the name *SHORT WAVE & TELEVISION* was not broad enough to cover this fast growing industry. Moreover, the distinction between short waves and other radio waves is no longer as marked as it was eight years ago when this magazine was launched. For this reason it was felt that the change of the title to *RADIO & TELEVISION* would be more in keeping with the changing times and would not impede the progress of the magazine.

On the other hand, the new title will broaden the field of the magazine, particularly the field of radio experimentation and amateur radio.

No radical change of editorial policy is contemplated in *RADIO & TELEVISION*. The magazine will continue to serve the thousands of radio experimenters and radio amateurs and particularly the new-comer in radio experimentation, as well as the man who hopes to break into amateur radio.

Particular attention will be paid, as of old, to the radio beginner, that is the young man who knows nothing of radio today and who will be one of the countless thousands of radio experts of tomorrow.

There is no other magazine today in the United States which serves the radio beginner and *RADIO & TELEVISION* will continue in helping to shape the radio destiny of those serious-minded young people, who are just getting under way in radio and who, ten years hence, will be the backbone of the radio industry itself.

October, 1938

SALUTE THE AMATEUR

JOHN V. L. HOGAN

Consulting Engineer



Allied News-Photo.

Mr. Hogan is well known to American amateurs for his work in radio, particularly in television and facsimile. Also his "high fidelity" transmitting station now in operation near New York City, marks a new departure in broadcasting.

- IT seems to me that the present status of the radio amateur is vastly improved, in comparison to his standing in "the old days," and that there is little or no uncertainty as to his future. Because the radio amateur

is one who loves radio, and who works in a communication field closely parallel to that of commercial radio, he generally is able to contribute usefully to the service of radio. His contribution may be in his experienced and skilful work, it may be by way of invention, or it may simply be the use of his own equipment to provide a valuable communication link in some emergency. In any event, amateur radio operations always have been (and always should be) encouraged, for they are good for the science, the art and the business of radio. Better yet, they are good for the amateur himself.

Looking back to my own amateur days, from 1904 to 1909, I feel that what I then learned by practical experience in the use of radio apparatus has been of inestimable value in my later professional work. There is perhaps no better way to learn what radio is about and how it works than to study the literature of the art and to apply its teachings in one's own amateur station. Today the amateur has the benefit of finer apparatus, better books and periodicals, and greater communication opportunities than existed in the early 1900's. In those days one could not find hundreds of fellow hams to talk with over the air, and we had no radiotelephony and no vacuum tubes. There were so few stations that no licensing system was needed to limit interference, and, while we had almost infinite opportunity to copy messages from nearby or distant ship and shore stations, we usually could find only a few friends to whom we might transmit.

Amateur conditions have changed for the better since those times, but the old excitement of improving one's apparatus and the old romance of receiving over great distances remain the same. And so does the opportunity for the progressive amateur to move forward into a successful professional career.

C. W. HORN

Director of Research & Development, National Broadcasting Company

Mr. Horn, like Dr. Conrad, has been responsible for a great deal of our short-wave engineering triumphs. Thousands of tests were made with transmitters, receivers and antennas by Mr. Horn when short waves were believed to be practically useless.



- THE average person thinks of the radio amateur as something of a "bug" who loves to operate his station to communicate with his friends both far and near. In doing so he sometimes causes some interference to broadcast reception, which results in occasional letters to broadcasting stations or the United States Radio Supervisor. I feel that the true worth of the amateur is not usually understood, sometimes even by the amateur himself.

In the old days when the amateurs were using spark sets, they caused a great deal of interference to broadcast reception, but when the problem became serious the amateurs cooperatively undertook to cure the evil, and succeeded almost 100 per cent. As a pioneer in the broadcasting game, I received many complaints, and there was even action taken to restrict the amateur. Instead of forwarding these complaints to the governmental authorities, I usually referred them directly back to the amateur, and frequently to the Amateur Radio Relay League, because I knew that many of the complaints were unjustified, and also that the amateurs themselves would correct their apparatus and eliminate the difficulty. I am happy to state that not one of the thousands of complaints that I received was ever forwarded to a government inspector.

Perhaps my attitude was due to my having been one of the old pioneer amateurs.

(Continued on page 358)

JAMES MILLEN

"Jim" Millen, as he is known affectionately to thousands of "hams," is well known for his development of high-class "ham" transmitting and receiving equipment. He has also written many valuable articles and books on short waves, and his personality and engineering ability have been a powerful factor in amateur radio development.



- IT seems to me that many of the present day amateurs are missing one of the most important benefits to be derived from amateur radio, in confining their contacts with other hams to a standardized description of their rigs, type of antennas, and the weather. Amateur radio affords too great an opportunity for the exchange of opinions, information, and ideas on worth-while subjects of mutual interest. If one's hobby is amateur radio, and he wants to confine his transmissions to a discussion of amateur equipment, certainly there is ample material for worth-while discussion other than the endless repetition of a highly condensed station description.

On the other hand, amateur radio affords such an unusual opportunity to discuss other hobbies and subjects such as photography, stamp collecting, model airplane construction, gardening, etc., that it is a shame that more of us do not use this modern communication system as an entering medium to other new, interesting, and educational fields.

R. A. HEISING

Bell Telephone Laboratories

The name of Heising is known to every radio amateur. The famous Bell Telephone Laboratories are to be congratulated on having associated with them a man of such far-sighted engineering introspection as Mr. Heising. His researches have greatly benefited American radio development.



- IT has been said that the radio amateur has made many of the important technical advances in radio. That certainly is true. It is very often the man who can bring a new point of view into a problem who can find a successful answer.

But who is an amateur? It might surprise one to think of the Bell System being a radio amateur at one time, but that is the case. In 1914 the American Telephone and Telegraph Company put into commercial use as wire telephone amplifiers the high vacuum tubes that had been developed in its laboratory. Telephone executives began to think they might experiment in radio to see what there was to it. They hired a number of young men right out of college, including the writer, and began active work. None of the new men, nor the directing engineers, were radio men, nor did they have any practical knowledge of radio. They were all rank amateurs in that respect.

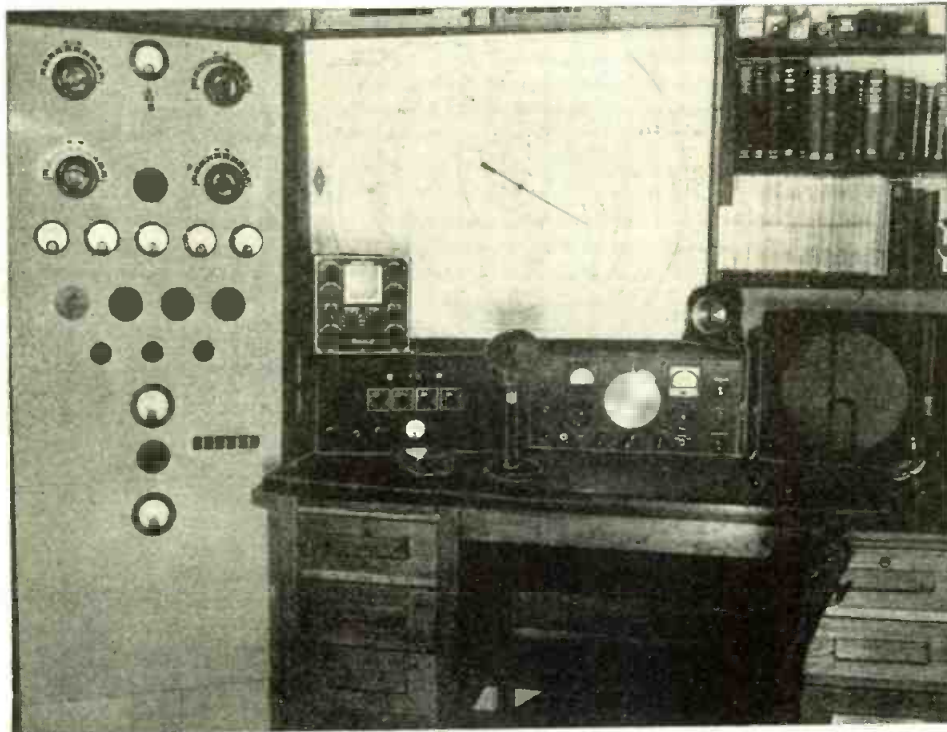
They worked in the laboratory first. They built a transmitter at Montauk and a receiver at Wilmington and made their first radio telephone tests. They built a transmitter at Arlington and sent out receivers to remote places and made longer radio telephone tests. Then they made other sets at the request of the Navy Department for experimental use. All this time there was no plan for commercial exploitation. It was all to see what could be done.

But, like all amateurs, their experience was valuable to the government when we got into the war. The radio telephone experience of the Bell System was called upon immediately to provide something of military value and use. As a result, radio telephones were made for submarine chasers to give instant communication in convoy service, and radio telephones were made for airplane spotting service and formation flying. These were the first practical radio telephones in history. They contained new circuits that were so much more efficient than those in previous radio telephones and so much simpler in construction and operation, that they were instantly adopted and continued to be used for many years. Because the engineers who developed them had a substantial background of telephone principles and practices, the purely radio part was backed up by the important wire part of properly designed telephone accessories for satisfactory reproduction of speech. It was the happy combination of the fresh viewpoint of the amateur backed up by the seasoned judgment of the expert that made the radio telephone possible, and which brought the broadcasting art to its present high quality.

(Article by Comdr. R. H. G. Matthews appears on page 358)

The PHONE HAM and What He

Llewellyn Bates Keim,



W2BTP. A neat and effective 20 meter station, particularly interesting because of the rotating antenna installation. The large map pointer turns with the antenna, indicating the direction in which the signal is traveling.

Many people ask — "What does a *phone ham* do?" Mr. Keim is an outstanding American radio amateur who carries on phone contacts with stations both in this country and abroad; he here tells many unusual things about the "phone ham".

and hundreds of others like them, have by their interest and devotion to their hobby, made possible this whole thing known as *broadcasting*, and it will ever be a lasting tribute to the amateur, that hardly a broadcast station exists in this or any other country which does not number at least one amateur on its staff. The so-called short waves were once considered useless for commercial use, so the amateur was told to play there, and, to the consternation of his more learned elders, he turned this part of the ether spectrum into the most valuable of all the com-

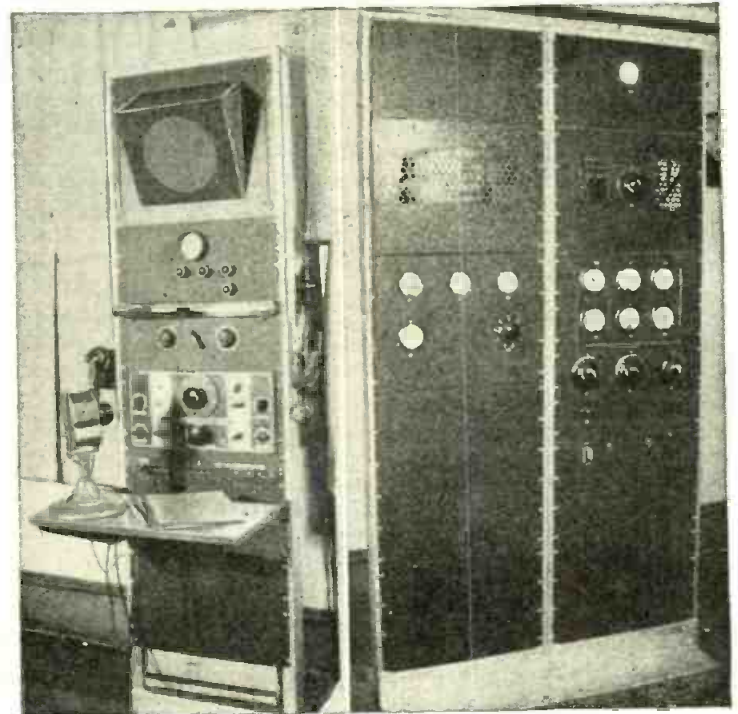
● HAVE you ever stopped to wonder, while tuning on the short wave bands of your broadcast receiver, just what sort of "Genus Homo" is this thing known as a *radio amateur*, and just why is he there? Though the amateur fraternity is divided into two groups, those who communicate by the Continental Morse code and its language of dots and dashes, and those who use telephony, this latter group—although smaller in number—is the more important. Important, I repeat, for it is through them that the public has largely learned of this vast army of experimenters with Hertzian waves.

Popular misconception has associated the radio amateur with a performer on a broadcast hour involving non-professional talent as its entertainment vehicle. But the genuine "ham" dates back many years before the war, when the amateurs gave the Brooklyn Navy Yard keen competition, before the days of licensing authorities or the Federal Communications Commission. The art of wireless communication has made great strides in the last thirty years, and ever in the vanguard of this march of progress has been the *amateur*, with his omnipresent tubes, coils, and condensers.

Early Phone Hams Gave Us Broadcasting

Lest you may wonder why there is a spot on the dials of your receiver, devoted to this activity, instead of providing an operatic or educational program, for your entertainment, let me trace a little of the history of the *phone ham* as a class. All of our present-day broadcasting is due directly to the activities of some of the earliest *hams*, and among them the names of de Forest, Cannon and Conrad are ranked as the *pioneers*. These,

Below—Radio Amateur Station, W8KXN, Plattsburgh, New York. Located deep in the Adirondack Mountains, Mr. Lambert is well known on 75 meters, throughout the Eastern part of the U.S. and in England.



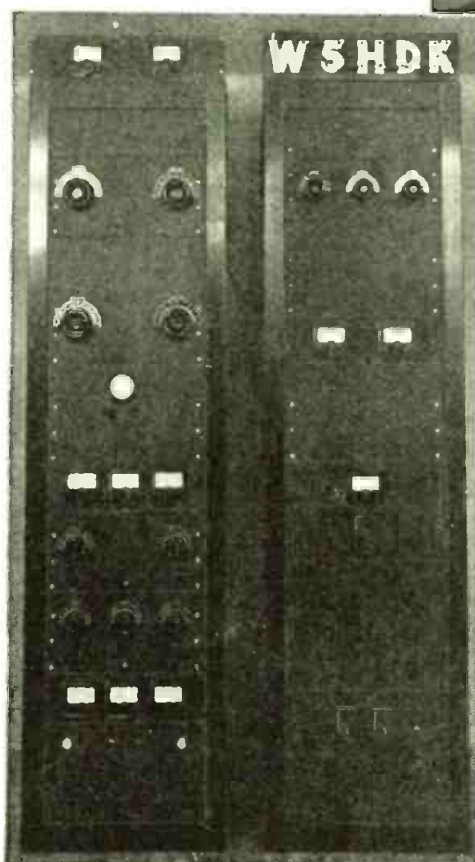
RADIO & TELEVISION

Does

W2IKV

Boy, what an amateur phone station! The call letters are W5HDK and the equipment includes professional type receivers and a transmitter designed and built by W5JC.

In the photo below of the transmitter, note the neon call letters above the modulator rack. The r.f. rack contains two transmitters of one kilowatt each, for operation on 10 and 160 meters.



munication frequencies. As a pioneer, *the radio amateur has no master.*

As we mentioned above, there are telegraph devotees, and those to whom the radio telephone is the more interesting. It is with this latter group that we are more concerned for the moment.

Phone Ham May Be 16 or 60

Let us never lose sight of the fact that all *phone hams* are also telegraphers, and the amateur who follows along this track

is an equally important part of the fraternity, providing a great number of skilled operators ever ready to serve their country in time of emergency. But the general public knows little of them and their activities, since the average household receiver is not equipped to render code signals intelligible, and even fewer average householders can read the dots and dashes. This does not hold true of the daily conversations of the phone ham, and it is this fellow in whom we are interested.

Statistics show that he may be sixteen or sixty, a wealthy corporation executive or a young lad striving hard to save enough to acquire that new piece of apparatus so badly needed in his rig, yet all of them meet on one common ground—they are brother hams. The friendships they make over the air are far, wide and lifelong, and all that each knows of his friend is the way he handles his key, or the sound of his voice, and the personality behind the microphone.

Ranging from the amateur who has purchased his equipment completely assembled, to the lad who builds his all, there is every possible stage in between. To each one the hobby holds forth a different interest. Some wish constantly to try out a new circuit by arranging their available gear into a new combination, claimed by a brother ham to give more power and a louder signal at the far end; others wish only to develop their operating ability and prowess at contacting the more elusive of dx stations. Still others are chiefly interested in the way the several hands available for amateur communications behave throughout the year, experimenting with various antennas until they can foretell what type of conditions to expect. This study of the propagation of electric waves is perhaps the most interesting of problems an amateur

can set for himself, the field is the largest and least crowded, and in the end, the results may be the most interesting. No matter what else he may be doing, however, the true phone ham is constantly delving into some problem, and the desire for knowledge is enormous.

5 Bands Open to Phone Hams

What goes on inside of a ham station during a typical day's operating would be hard to relate, as there are so many activities that a short article could hardly do them all justice. There are five bands open to radiotelephone operation, provided the amateur holds the Class A license, and each of these has its devotees, but this does not say that an amateur may not operate on all bands. Many do, and advisedly so, thereby covering the widest scope of activity and making the most of their hobby. The wise amateur selects his operating frequency to cover the distance he wishes to work, and, transmitting conditions being favorable, he contacts his station with the least interference to his brother hams. Local contacts, those within a radius of about twenty-five miles, now take place mostly on five meters, a beehive of phone activity in the metropolitan centers, and at times this band, too, offers signals from surprisingly great distances.

One never knows what thrills lie in store in this great indoor pastime. Because of the simpler nature of equipment needed to set up a station on five meters, many newcomers make their bow to the air waves here, and even the more seasoned amateur finds pleasure in outfitting his auto or even his boat, if he is fortunate enough to own one, with a complete station, so that he may try his skill in mobile operation. This

(Continued on page 364)

Back in the CRASHING

E. T. Jones



Experimenter-Amateur 5QW (until 1915). Author, Inventor, Engineer, Chief Radio Operator "WNU"—signed "Z." First Editor "Radio News"—Member Institute Radio Engineers, Sales Executive and presently Manager, Advertising and Sales Promotion—Engineering Products, RCA Manufacturing Co., Camden, N. J.

● AFTER I tell you that I have been searching twenty-nine years for the radio bug that bit me during the latter part of 1909, you'll be disappointed when you fail to find me hiding behind a set of long gray whiskers. While I have not as yet seen this strange yet fascinating creature, he must look something like an octopus with about forty times the number of tentacles because once he grabs you there is no "letting go." It was during the autumn of 1909 when I first felt its pleasant bite. I had just listened to telegraph signals coming from apparently nowhere—right out of the air—without the aid of connecting wires between the point of transmission and reception. Unbelievable—but there the signals were, loud and clear. My hair stood on end—it was like receiving a great shock—it registered a long-lasting impression that is just as realistic today as it was then—29 years ago.

The "First"
The only book on the subject available to me at the time was Hugo Gernsback's MODERN ELECTRICS. I read each issue at



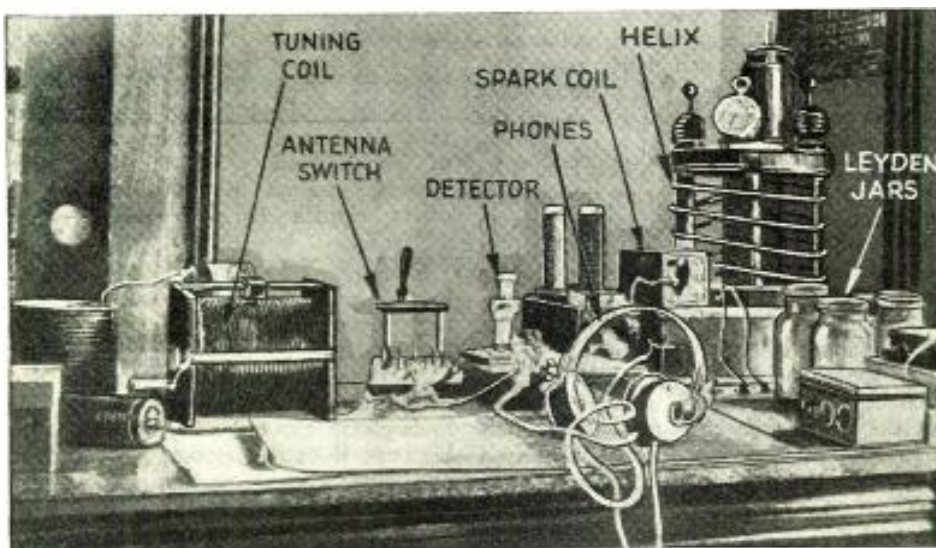
What's the duster for? Don't ask! Anyhow, it's an honest-to-goodness "ham" station—vintage of 1910—and it appeared in the "Wireless Telegraph" contest department in the December 1910 issue of "Modern Electrics" magazine. (Published and edited by Hugo Gernsback; first issue May, 1908!)

least *one dozen times*, while waiting patiently for the next issue to arrive. I read interesting accounts of extremely successful Amateurs who were able to copy ships and radio stations *from tremendous distances* up to and including 75 miles! Of course they employed super receiving stations—especially the antennae—4 to 8 wires, 200 to 300 feet in length, supported by two 80 foot masts. Then I would gaze on their pictures—garbed in white coats (for scientific atmosphere, I guess)—comfortably perched in front of their equipment with their noses pointed skyward, as though they had Steinmetz, Edison and Marconi in the palms of their hands. For one most distinguished pose I refer you to page 527, December issue 1910 of MODERN ELECTRICS.

When the modern hams of today learn from the following, how I constructed my first radio receiving set, they'll probably page Mr. Ripley, but it's the truth! Fortunately in those days even the electric street cars employed dry cells to ring the bell announcing your desire to "take leave" of the contraption (and it was a relief, I assure you). I resided but three squares from a central car-barn where these crates were overhauled. That barn became the most important building in the U.S.A. insofar as I was concerned. It supplied me with numerous partially dead dry cells. In those days flat carbons were used for the *positive* electrodes in dry cells. By removing the carbon strips, cutting and drilling them as required, an excellent *carbon detector* was constructed with the aid of a sewing needle, a porcelain knob, and a few pieces of hardware. (See figure No. 1.) Another of the partially dead dry cells furnished the small amount of current required for the proper operation of the detector, in series with the highly sensitive (???) 75 ohm watch-case telephone receiver. Diagram of connection is shown in figure No. 2.

The rig appeared to work perfectly. Stations were coming in from all over the world, so it seemed. This belief continued until I finally reached the point where I could copy 25 words per minute, at which time I discovered, *to my great embarrassment*, that most of these supposed signals were nothing more than mechanical vibrations being picked up by the ultra sensitive (or should I say *ultra microphonic?*) carbon detector. At least it proved one thing—it worked! Believe it or not, I was picking up signals from a 25 kw. station located about 2 miles from my home! Station HB—United Fruit Company, New Orleans, La. I made another great discovery which was as embarrassing as the microphonic re-

E. T. Jones' first real attempt at building a "ham radio station."



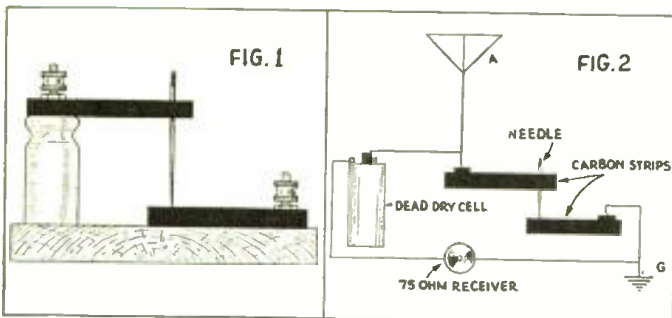
Days of SPARK-GAPS

Says E. T. J.—"When the radio 'ham bug' bites you, you stay bit!"

ceptions. I found that I could read the signals from that station without the aid of a radio receiver—when the wind was blowing in the right direction—by merely sticking my head out of the window. (And I didn't get Chile—Bah!) Station HB was using a 25 kw. Fessenden 500 cycle rotary gap, *without mufflers*, which—at the station proper—sounded like an earthquake every time a spark jumped the gap. Some fun, eh keed? Ask good old "Dot" how loud it was!

of both ends of the primary tubing, and would have tried another if we could have gotten it out of the side.

It is this kind of so-called shennanigans which was and still is happening daily and deep into the night in thousands of homes in America that stamps Amateurs as the *real pioneers* of the radio industry. Without their spirit of stick-to-itiveness and their dogged determination to succeed under the most trying and heart-rending conditions, I doubt very much if the radio art would



The extremely simple carbon-steel needle microphone detector used back in those palmy days by E. T. Jones.

We Strike "Pay Dirt"!

We amateurs had been hearing strange rumors about a mysterious crystal which would supplant the carbon (microphonic) detector. This precious crystal was known as *Silicon*. From what little information we gathered, it appeared as though it would cost a king's ransom to take even as much as a peek at it under lock and key. It was soon learned that a local iron foundry used great quantities of this material in the treatment of metals. I won't take up valuable space telling you about the tremendous problem this company had on their hands from that time on. Sooooo—to make a long story short—they gave us enough of the crystals to last us a life-time in order to get rid of us. This marked the beginning of all future nervous breakdown cases—the *cat-whisker era* I call it. This ancient art was revived in 1922—remember?

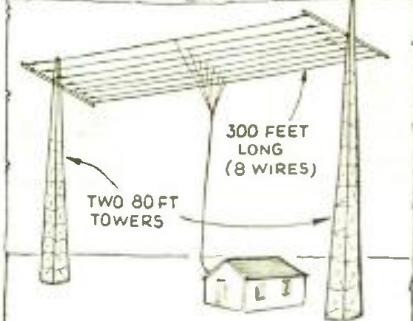
With the aid and encouragement of Hugo Gernsback, the *Father of Amateur Radio*, we tried everything under the sun, from sticking needles in a spud (potato to you, Oswald) to the use of carbide enclosed in glass tubes. We made *permanently adjusted* crystal detectors, sealed in beeswax, that when dropped on the floor would retain their precious adjustments! We made loose couplers with secondaries coming out

have progressed to the lofty heights it has reached today.

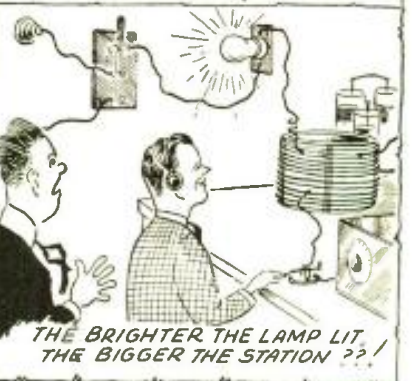
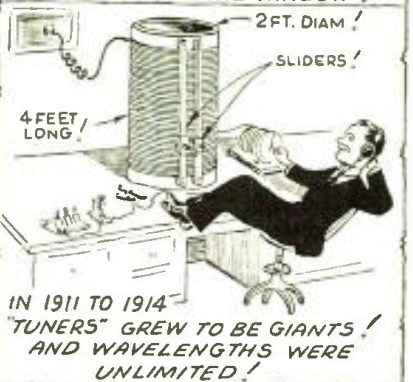
Wavelength—An Unknown Quantity

Then began the era of *all-wave* transmitters—from 10 to 40,000 meters—all at the same time!! Nice coverage—if you can get it today. Better see F.C.C. first though. Our transmitters were about as wide open as Tony Galento is when he approaches his opponent. Wavelength?—let me see—what on earth could that have been at that time? No one paid any attention to it—the amateur who had the longest and largest antenna and the largest tuning helix was the nertz. The race was on, loose couplers that could have tuned to 100,000 meters were built and the champion of them all was Johnny Dobbins—now at WNU, New Orleans—who used a hat shipping container for the primary of his loose coupler! It measured about two feet in diameter and four feet in length—wound full of No. 22 DCC wire with a double slider—*E. I. Co.'s famous ball bearing sliders*.

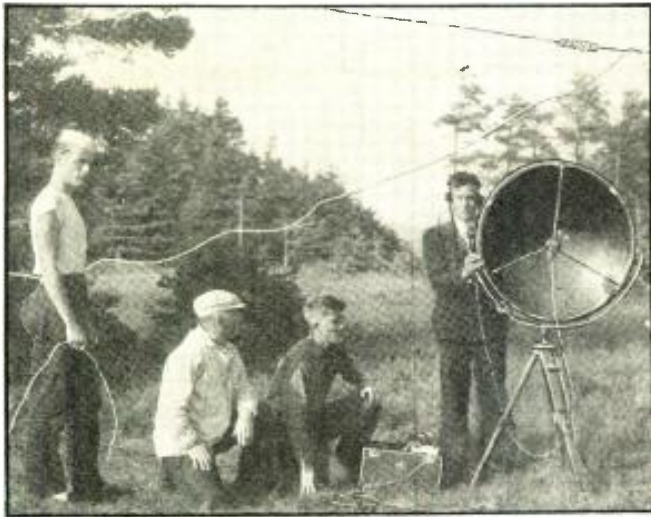
Then came the race for POWER (did I hear anyone paging a broadcast station in the lobby of the F.C.C. office?). My contribution consisted of a One Kilowatt OPEN CORE transformer floating in a bath of oil to prevent FIRE! The boiling oil came in handy during the winter months—it kept the shack warm. With
(Continued on page 370)



IN 1909 HAMS HEARD SHIPS 75 MILES AWAY!



¹W. E. Beakes—who signed "E"—now Vice-President and General Manager, Tropical Radio Tel. Co., Boston, Mass.



One of the radio amateurs who helped to trap wild bird calls is seen standing beside the parabolic microphone. Speech amplifier and standard "mike" used by the expedition are seen at the right.

● ONE of the unique projects attempted at Kent's Island (by the Bowdoin Scientific Expedition) was the recording of bird songs by means of radio. The recordings were made possible by the cooperation of Mr. Albert R. Brand of the Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

Since it was impracticable to transport the heavy Ford sound truck to Kent's Island, it was driven to Eastport, thence carried by steamship to Grand Manan, the nearest accessible point to Kent's Island. From Kent's Island the bird songs were transmitted by the Station's *short wave* amateur radio and picked up by the sound truck stationed at Seal Cove, Grand Manan, eight miles distant.

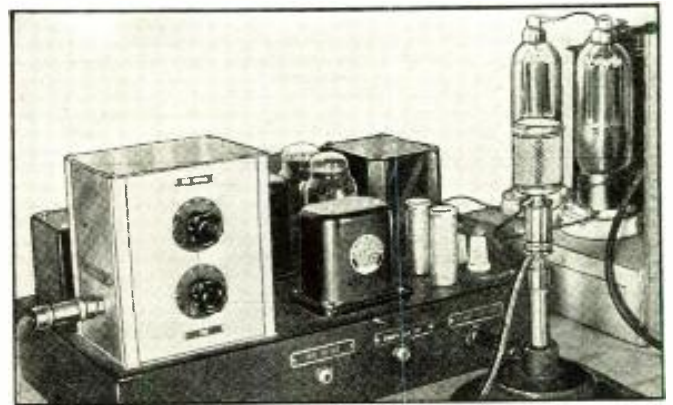
To the pet raven "Croaky" went the distinction of being the

Radio Amateurs Help to Record *Bird Calls*

first bird to transmit his harsh sonorous voice over the air to be permanently recorded. Calls from the gull colony nearly a *mile* away were also picked up with the aid of a parabolic reflector in the focus of which a microphone was placed.

The recordings of the petrel presented a more difficult problem. It was necessary to set up a sensitive microphone very near the burrows of the nesting colony. The petrel utters its song at very uncertain and irregular intervals. The best performances are given only at night between ten in the evening and three o'clock in the morning. Furthermore, the birds are most active when the

(Continued on page 380)



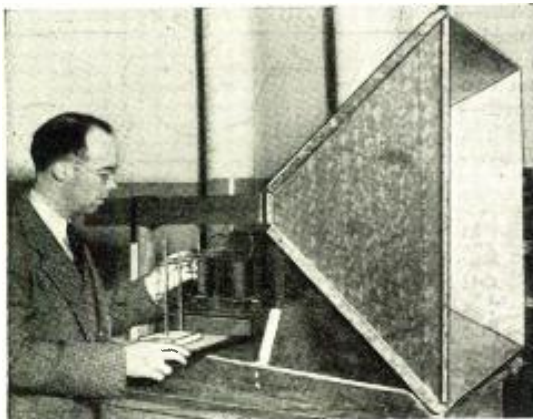
Metal Horn Focuses Ultra Short Waves

● A SIMPLE and efficient means of producing a beam of ultra-high frequency radio waves in which a flared metal horn is used as an antenna to project the waves into space in much the same manner as acoustical horns can concentrate sound waves into a beam, has been developed in the communication laboratories of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology by Dr. Wilmer L. Barrow. This new development in directive "antennas" was described by Dr. Barrow in a paper presented at the joint meeting of the Institute of Radio Engineers and the International Scientific

Radio Union and aroused great interest. The electromagnetic horn or trumpet should find early application to micro-ray communication, in which the intelligence is sent over a narrow pencil-like radio beam at wavelengths only about a tenth of a meter long. Other applications may be to airplane and ship navigation, and similar problems to which these very short waves are adapted. This range of wavelengths, roughly below one meter in length, is rapidly being explored and being put to practical use. For example, several micro-wave communication channels have been

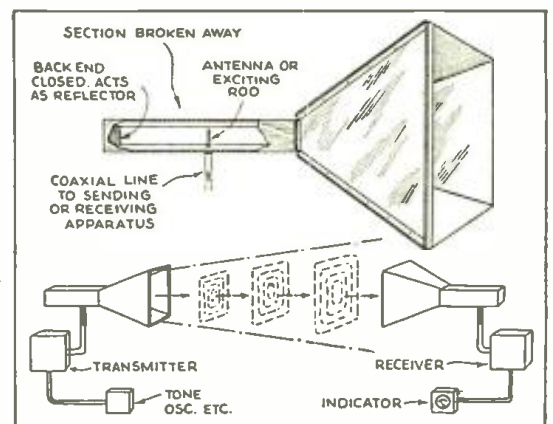
in use in Europe for three or four years. The one across the English Channel is perhaps the best known. These micro-waves and the horn antenna appear to be almost ideally suited for application to the "blind" landing of airplanes under conditions of fog, snow or rain, although a further increase in the reliability and ruggedness of the sending and receiving apparatus is needed before the shorter micro-waves can be safely employed here.

The possibilities of radiating waves from electromagnetic horns was first described (Continued on page 380)



Left—Metal horn recently devised and successfully used by Prof. Wilmer L. Barrow in focusing ultra short waves; waves in the region of 300 to 4300 megacycles (wavelengths of from 1 meter to 7 centimeters).

Right—Detail of wave focusing horn developed by Prof. Barrow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The receiver may be fitted with a corresponding focusing horn.



Dem was the HAPPY DAYS

Austin C. Lescarboua

Mr. Lescarboua, one of the real early "hams" in this country, gives us some very interesting side-lights on the experiences he encountered while operating one of the first "spark-coil" and "crystal-detector" stations.

● IF that Marconi operator hadn't made such an impression on my young mind as he sat before a huge spark coil emitting its dazzling sparks, this story wouldn't have been written. However, upon the occasion of the first electrical exposition in New York City back in 1907, which featured a Marconi wireless demonstration from one end of the old Madison Square Garden to the other, Yours Truly decided then and there upon an amateur wireless career.

There wasn't much choice of equipment in those early days, thirty years ago. The commercial stations, particularly ship installations, were using spark coils mainly, although power transformers were beginning to be used at the leading shore stations. The coherer-decoherer had already given way to the carbon-granule coherer and earphones, as well as the Marconi

Worked with Hugo Gernsback

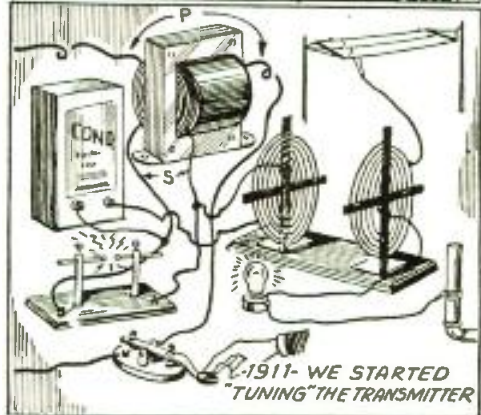
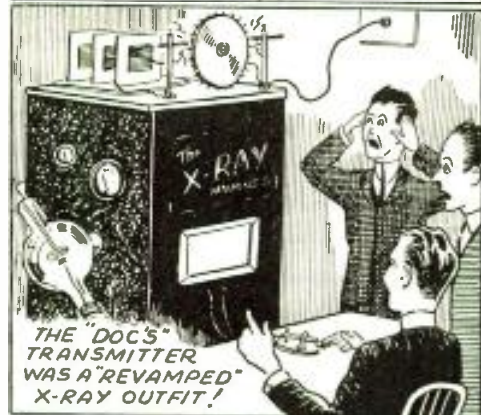
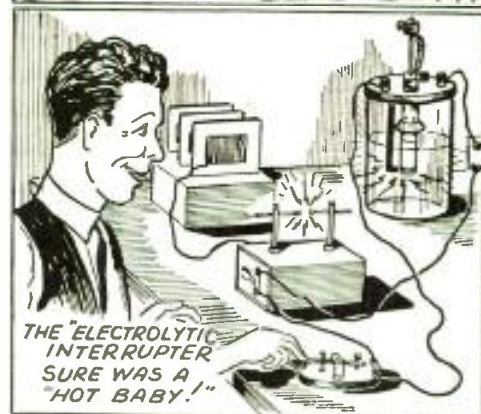
Years passed. 1910. My meagre spending money went into a 2-inch spark coil, purchased at the inside factory price because I happened to be working for dear old Mesco at the time. Meanwhile, I had been serving as assistant engineer of the Telefunken Wireless Telegraph Company of America, learning much about the more practical side of wireless. Also, I had worked with Hugo Gernsback in the pioneer days of the old E. I. Co. But, not getting enough wireless during working hours, I spent most of my evenings rigging up a lofty aerial on the apartment-house roof, and wiring and rewiring the spark coil, key, condensers made of ordinary window glass and tinfoil, changeover switch, two-slide tuning coil, silicon detector, and earphones.

The power problem was really the main hitch. The two-inch coil drew at least 6 amperes. My early efforts with dry battery proved very costly, for a set of cells wouldn't last more than a week. And so I turned to a storage battery, bought, painfully, cell by cell. Being blessed with D.C. supply, and having an old-fashioned link-fuse panel board available in the kitchen, I proceeded to connect my storage battery in series with our electric lights, so that the more lights used by the family the greater the charging rate. In this way I obtained a good source of power at no extra cost.

Later came a Wehnelt electrolytic interrupter, so that the two-inch coil could be operated directly off the 110 volts D.C. This interrupter consisted of a piece of heavy glass tubing with bottom end fused about a length of platinum wire. The inside of the tube was filled with mercury to make contact between the platinum wire and the lead wire. Rapid interruption of the current produced a steady spark or really an arc from the coil secondary, resulting in a great step-up in transmitting power. Also a higher pitched signal which was so much more "professional" than the ragged buzz I had been using.

But whom to talk to? That was the question. There were other amateurs on the air, some of the fellows whose names

(Continued on page 365)



The November issue of RADIO & TELEVISION

will be an "Advanced Radio Amateur Number." It will contain valuable articles for the beginner as well as the advanced HAM.

magnetic detector, but the latter, with its elaborate spring motor, grooved wheels and moving belt of iron wire, was too ambitious for the amateur to tackle. So the choice was usually the carbon-granule auto-coherer, soon to be replaced by the electrolytic detector, the needle resting on knife-edge carbons, and the various forms of crystal detectors.

Late in 1907 I began receiving signals on a carbon-granule detector, connected with a couple of dry cells and an ordinary 75-ohm watch-case telephone receiver. For an aerial, I used the fire-escape of our apartment house. On several occasions I was rewarded by very weak dots and dashes. The whole family had to listen in on this wonder of the ages. My reputation was duly established as another Marconi in the making.

How HAM RADIO Saved Shawneetown!

Robert T. Anderson's
Own Story

Mr. Anderson was awarded the second Paley trophy for an outstanding radio amateur performance. The exciting events which led to this award are described in this exclusive article.



Many times Mr. Anderson and his short wave radio equipment were nearly thrown overboard by the rough water encountered during the flood period in Illinois.

● JANUARY 20, 1937, one of the early days of the flood, nearly caught me without a transmitter. I had just built a rack and panel job consisting of a L6 tritet, 10 buffer driving P P 10's operating on 3920

was still heavy, principally in the form of sleet, with some rain and snow.

An Urgent Message

When I arrived at the shop the next morning I found an urgent telephone call waiting for me from the authorities wanting to know how soon I could leave for Shawneetown, 23 miles away, with enough "gear" to establish and maintain communication. Since I had no emergency equipment ready, and had to obtain supplies, arrangements were made to leave at noon.

At 12:30 p. m. we loaded my equipment consisting of the exciter unit, a Crosley Model 636 allwave, 6V battery receiver; a set of spare tubes for transmitter and receiver; an adequate tool kit; a flashlight, 6 Eveready 486 B-batteries, a box of incidental parts and a tent.

By this time the road between Harrisburg and Shawneetown was flooded and impassable in four places. We were able to detour around the first flooded area, and crossed the second in a small boat over water so rough that the men had refused to take a reporter over an hour before at any price! Since I had a radio set they took me across for nothing.

A Hazardous Trip

A three mile ride in a farm wagon took me to the third gap at a coal mine within

nine miles of Shawneetown. I found the telephone at the mine still working to Shawneetown, contacted the authorities there and prepared to set up and handle messages. However, the authorities insisted that I continue across the next gap by boat and promised to meet me in a boat and take me across the last gap. They told me of their plight: that provisions of all kinds were low and they were entirely out of bread. At this time I joined forces with a bread salesman who was trying to deliver several hundred loaves of bread and some meat to Shawneetown. About dark we secured a small boat and pushed off.

We were so badly overloaded that we would have been swamped immediately if the man nearest the bank had not jumped overboard. The water was not deep but the temperature was about 20° Fahr. and the blizzard was at its height. We later found another boat, split our load and reached the railroad crossing and the last gap of water. Here we found ourselves unable to go farther or return. Our motorboat failed to arrive, the current in the last gap was terrific, and it would have been suicidal to have attempted crossing in our small boats without oars. Since we had no adequate oars it was impossible to return to the mine against the northwest gale. So we "set up" by light from the

(Continued on page 373)



Finally arriving at the scene of operations, Mr. Anderson proceeded to "set up" his transmitting and receiving equipment, the only illumination being furnished by a flashlight.

kc., but the final had a bad case of parasitic oscillation, and I had never tried the outfit. However, I had remarked that it should be easy to use the exciter as a portable, and considered building up power supplies to enable me to do so, but put it off until the main rig was working satisfactorily.

My emergency work actually started at noon Thursday, Jan. 21, 1937, when K. E. Schonert, W9HQD, and I discussed the situation, decided it looked serious and placed our stations at the service of the Red Cross and other relief agencies.

At 3 p. m. when the heavy rain began changing to sleet and freezing on suspended wires, we realized that conditions were becoming very serious and that communications would be disrupted by morning, so I took the rest of the day off and went home to start work on the "rig." By midnight the rig was on the air. By this time there was considerable ice on the ground as well as suspended objects, and the precipitation

●
Exclusive photo showing Mr. Anderson and the emergency short wave transmitter and receiver which he used in calling help to rescue the inhabitants of Shawneetown.
●



The "YL" in Amateur Radio

Beatrice Holman
W1KTG



Photo by Boris

▲ Beatrice Holman, W1KTG, licensed radio amateur of Belmont, Mass. The number of young lady "Ham" operators is increasing each year.

◀ A dandy Ham station we'll say! It is operated by the author of the accompanying article. If you're a Ham, you've probably heard this station "on the air".



Photo by Chandler

● THE YL in amateur radio leads a charmed existence. She is a mystery to her other YL friends, a problem to her family and the delight (she hopes) of her brother amateurs. She would rather wear ear-phones than a Paris hat; she would rather stay up till three QSO-ing her boy friend in Sydney or Brisbane than dance at the Ritz; she subscribes to radio magazines and would rather read Terman on antennas than the latest novel about the younger set. She may live in a pent-house in a big city, with the latest type commercial equipment under her control, or she may have her shack in a lonely outpost with battery or windmill power and a make-shift rig; in any event, *the world is at her feet!* So is the postal service, for her daily mail in time is likely to become a major item in the carrier's routine.

Hams Are Gallant

She likes the friendly spirit of amateur radio, finding it one of the best influences in the world today. It breaks down borders and barriers; it spans the high seas and the long trek to make communication possible between people who would otherwise never know each other; it creates pleasant and lasting friendships; it knows no distinctions of nationality, politics or class.

Because women radio operators are still in the minority, the YL in amateur radio has an unusually interesting time. If she needs assistance in putting up masts or rhombics, she gets it promptly through the gallantry of her brother hams; in the same

way, any technical advice which she requests is promptly and freely offered. (In the case of my own station, I speak from experience, because one amateur has not only given his time, help and advice but actually built my transmitters as well.)

Sweet Voice—Quick Response

Probably there are more YL amateurs who operate phone than cw. transmitters. Their voices become as well known on the

larily of Eileen, the XYL at G6DH, whose cheery greeting on ten meter phone is *known to hams the world over!* Then in this country on ten and twenty meters there are many outstanding YL personalities, including *Eunice* at W5ZA and *Jean* at W4DGO.

Although I enjoy phone contacts very much indeed, I prefer to operate cw. In many countries today phone operation is forbidden; there amateurs are allowed to use only code transmitters. The YL who can handle a key or bug, then, has an almost unlimited possibility of contacts in every continent, all over the globe, from the Arctic circle through all the zones. In some cases, owing to atmospheric difficulties or interference, the QSO's may be short—a mere exchange of greetings and reports on signal strength; more often, however, they are an interesting exchange of facts and the beginning of many schedules.

Your Geography Begins to "Live"!

Places on the map that were just memories of school geography become very real when one establishes contact with them by air. And the wonder and speed of radio are all the more impressive when the resulting QSL or letter arrives with the foreign stamps after a long journey by boat or plane. I have learned interesting facts about people and places in my own country through radio contacts—about the oil industry in Oklahoma, farming in the South and West, the occupations and ideas of

(Continued on page 363)

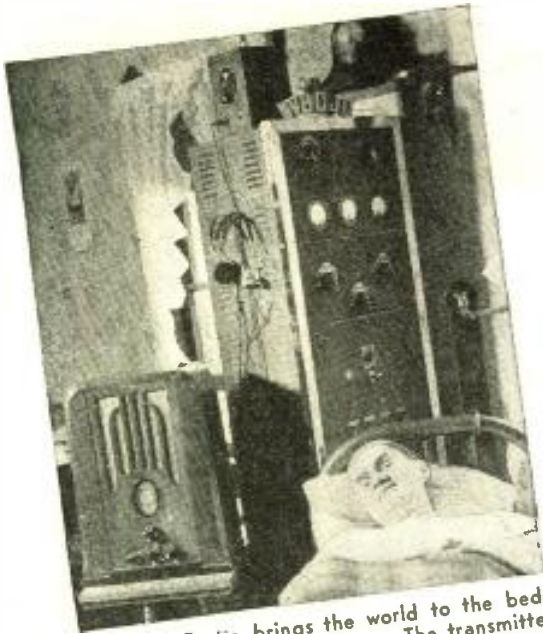
The November issue of **RADIO & TELEVISION**

will be an
"Advanced Radio Amateur Number."
It will contain valuable articles, both
general and constructional, for the beginner as well as the advanced HAM.

air as the broadcasting stars. In fact, amateur radio activities are good preparation for broadcasting. For DX phone work, one must think quickly and speak clearly in order that the foreign contact may be complete. Familiarity with the operation of an amateur phone station helps develop confidence and poise; the operator knows that a pleasing voice brings a quick response, and that is where the YL has an advantage. In this respect, I think particu-

The WORLD COMES To My Room— *Via Amateur Radio*

John "Pop" Garvey, W8RID, tells
Michael Hrehocik all about it.



Amateur Radio brings the world to the bedside of "Pop" Garvey's room. The transmitter was built by "ham" friends.



"Pop" is in the coal business and he takes orders—via telephone. Note how the phone is "rigged" by a special bracket.

● ARE you looking for an inexpensive hobby that takes a comparatively short time to master? A hobby that will bring the outside world to your room—to your bedside. One that will create an outlet for your repressed feelings and one that will make it possible for you to make hundreds of friends. Smiling John "Pop" E. Garvey of Cleveland, Ohio, bed-ridden with arthritis for over ten years, was searching for one and found it—a short wave amateur station.

"CQ . . . CQ . . . CQ . . . W8RID, Cleveland, Ohio . . . calling CQ . . . CQ . . .," Pop sharply spoke into his "Mike" a second after I had entered his room. Pop, a jolly, round faced individual, with laughing blue eyes, pudgy nose and a big black cigar at a cocky angle, was lying in his bed—a portable bed equipped with balloon tire wheels. He had just snapped on a switch that is attached to his microphone line. This line leads to his transmitting cabinet that stands two or three feet to the side of the bed. Repeating the call CQ . . . —a general inquiry in the vernacular of the amateur operators indicating that he wished to contact someone—he got in touch with a chap in Michigan. After talking to him for a half hour, he signed off with a rousing 73—goodbye.

Not many of us relish the thought of not eating for a day. "But," comments Pop, "most amateurs will gladly pass up their victuals in order that they may put in a few more hours on the air. Why, the young fellow I just talked to is really a fanatic. He's up to three or four o'clock every morning chewing the rag. His wife doesn't permit him to stay up later than 11 or 12 o'clock. She believes that he abides by this ruling, for she can check up on him in his log book. Every amateur is required to keep a log book into which he records the station he contacts, the time he begins and signs off and various other details. But he fools her, for he keeps two log books—one for her to peer into and one for the government inspector. Yes sir, once you get this disease of being an amateur radio operator, it's less curable and more deadly than arthritis."

"I always thought that it took a radio engineer or someone in his category to run an amateur station. How did you ever get mixed up in this?" I questioned.

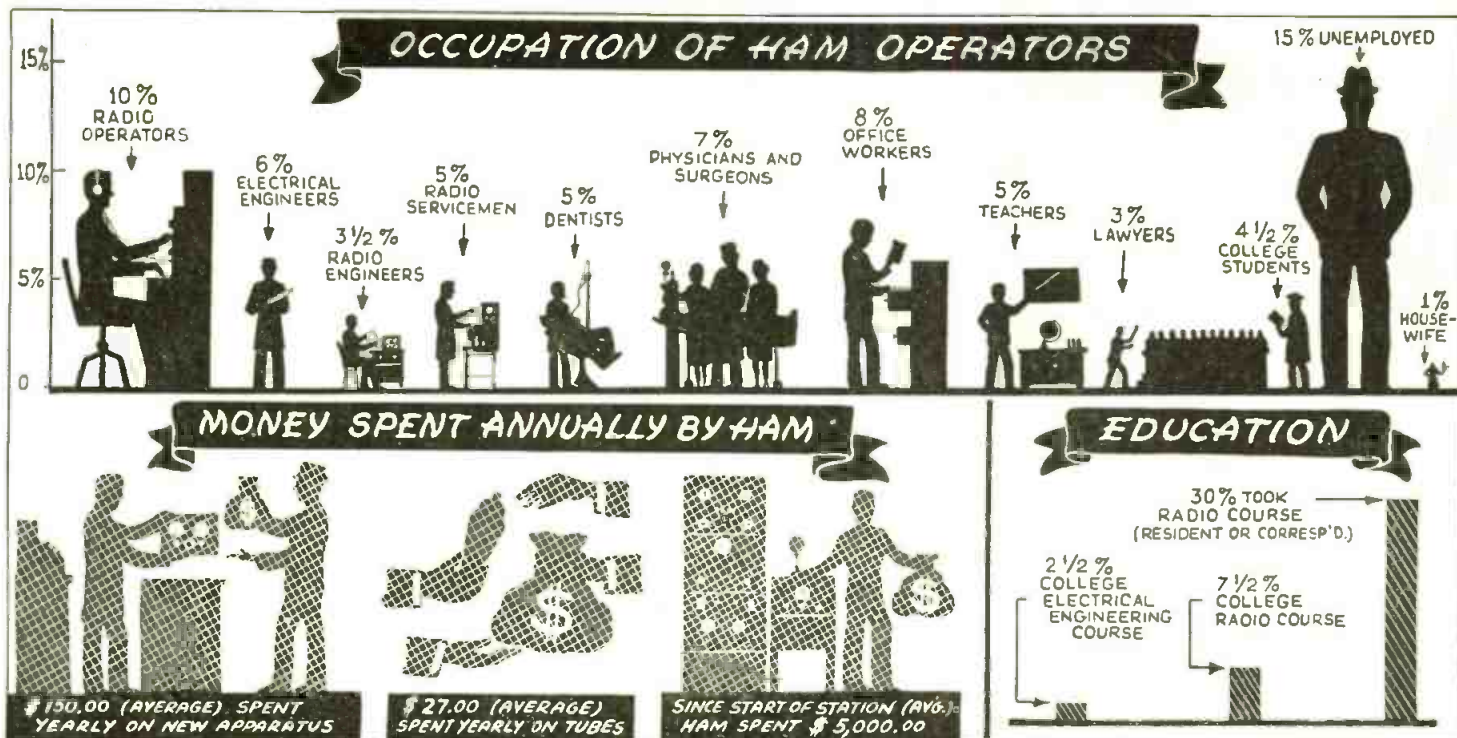
"Being a victim of arthritis, I was confined to my bed and had plenty of time on my hands. A larger portion of this time I devoted to listening to my short-wave set and this was the factor that led me into my thrilling hobby. I began corresponding with a few out of town amateurs and through them I became acquainted with a few hams in Cleveland. I was curious to get as much information about short wave as possible, and as these local amateurs would call on me I would pepper them with hundreds of questions. Seeing my interest develop rapidly, quite a number of the local hams formed a club at my home and decided to build me a set. When the boys had a few hours to spare they would work on it and in this way my transmitter was completed in six months.

Cost of Set Nominal

"While my set did cost more than the average, one can either buy or build a receiving set for about \$50 and a transmitter from \$75 to \$100. If one has the necessary background, he can build it
(Continued on page 378)



Mr. and Mrs. John E. Garvey "at home." By means of a mirror, "Pop" can see what is going on all about him.



What Price HAM Radio?

How much money do American Hams spend annually for radio apparatus?
 Do they buy more ready-made receivers than they do transmitters?
 How many battery sets are used?
 How much do Hams spend for tube replacements?

● THE editors of this magazine were greatly interested in determining a number of interesting facts about the American Radio Amateur or "Ham," as he is more popularly called. There was only one way to find out and that was to mail questionnaires to a great number of leading Hams all over the United States—and this was done.

What Hams Do for a Living

Probably the most interesting fact about the average Ham station owner and operator concerns his occupation. The answers to the questionnaires disclosed that 10% of the amateurs are licensed radio operators, occupied either in the commercial field or as police and marine operators. Six per cent of the amateurs are graduate electrical engineers, while 3 1/2% are radio engineers. Radio service-men figured in the answers to the questionnaires to the extent of 5%. radio technicians 2 1/2%, telegraphers 3%, radio broadcast engineers 2%. Among the professional men who are licensed, according to the questionnaires, 2% are ministers, 3% writers, 5% dentists, 7% physicians and surgeons, 3% lawyers, and 1% musicians. Other interesting figures show 5% teachers, 5% business executives, 8% office workers, officers and salesmen, 5% merchants, 4 1/2% college students, 15% unemployed, and even the housewife showed up as 1%.

A further analysis of the occupations of radio amateurs indicates that quite a num-

H. W. Secor

ber occupy Government positions, either with the Army, Navy, Marines or in the Government service. Quite a few Hams are airplane pilots, 2% farmers, 1% newspaper reporters, while others are sprinkled through the various professions of optometrist, librarian, the advertising profession, statisticians, printers, bank tellers, restaurant workers, express messengers, time-keepers, telephone engineers, signal engineers, radio editors, radio communications experts, movie sound engineers, motion picture projection operators.

Education

A highly important factor in any profession, including data on the radio amateur, is education. The answers to the questionnaires disclosed that 2 1/2% of the Hams have taken a college *electrical engineering* course and 7 1/2% have pursued technical radio courses at some one of America's well-known colleges or universities. About 30% had taken, either resident or correspondent, courses in some one of the numerous radio schools that are scattered across the country. 51% had no formal radio training or background, but simply educated themselves by reading books and technical magazines such as *RADIO & TELEVISION*.

Money Spent Annually on Ham Stations

When it comes to the amount of money spent by the individual Ham annually on his station, either for new apparatus or for tube replacements, this, of course, varies a great deal and the figure obtained by checking an average of the amounts mentioned in the answers given to the questionnaires does not show what the amateur with the small station spent. Naturally, if he only has a small station and has been in the Ham game for only a short time, he will probably not spend as much annually for apparatus or tubes as would those who have been in the game for 5 or 10 years and who have built up elaborate stations.

The questionnaires were sent to representative amateur operators, as nearly as could be judged, and the average amount spent by this representative class of amateur operators on new equipment each year is \$150.00; for tube replacements, the average is \$27.00 per year.

The radio dealer or manufacturer should not take this as a representative figure for all operators, as the only way to reach such a figure bearing on the whole membership of 46,000 licensed Hams would be to send a questionnaire to every one of them. This must be understood for the very good reason that among some of the reports handed in by the radio amateurs, we find those who spent as much as \$3,000 during the past year on new equipment,

(Continued on page 374)



Here's the smiling face of VE3QL—E. E. C. England of Walkerville, Ont., Can., a real live "ham".

● THE following episode is taken from a day during the last amateur phone contest. The time, 7:00 P.M., E.S.T., Friday evening, March 18th. Everything was in readiness waiting for the one minute to roll around. Everything had been checked over and over to avoid disappointments. The beam antenna had been oiled, greased, and calibrated to make it twirl around at the touch of the wheel. The receiver was all tuned, waiting for the DX to roll in—one minute more—just sixty seconds—there—7:01 and just listen to the DX rolling in. A pair of earphones bought specially for the occasion were installed in case of too much QRM. At last through the jumble of voices came a CQ, fading a little, but at least readable; would he never sign his call, here it is—GM6WD—and on the other end of the band. Up from the chair and around the back of the transmitter to change crystals, just hoping he wouldn't "sign his call" and look over the band before I changed frequency.

Three Visitors—and What a Time!

My hope was granted and he later signed, listening for W stations. Well, I took the chance, and lo and behold, he came back to VE3QL the first GM station (Scotland) I had ever contacted. We exchanged our serial numbers and signed. I was off to a good start at least. Then came disaster. a knock at the door and in walked three short wave listeners (SWL's). Of all the times to pick, when DX was just pounding in, and me trying to listen to DX stations and answer their questions at the same time. It proved to be a bigger job than I had anticipated.

Silence once again and eight o'clock striking, one hour of good DX gone, and also a slight increase of QRM (interference). Another CQ—very faint—but the signal slowly climbing up. PAOFB—was I hearing right—the Netherlands calling CQ; so back I went to the old frequency. I gave him a long and bellowing call and back he came to VE3QL, with a 4R7 signal fairly good. I had just signed off

A Day in the of a

E. E. C. England, VE3QL

The accompanying article gives a new slant for the layman on what a busy "ham" can do with 24 hours. How does he eat, sleep and carry on "day" and "night" schedules?

Read on . . .

with him when QRM from one end of the band to the other just smothered the DX out of the picture. Somebody *would* put an electric razor on, as if he couldn't pick

flew by and no real difficulties had transpired, which was something to be thankful for. A few G (English) stations were worked and then time was called. Even hams have to eat, and with a big night ahead of me, I felt the need of something energizing.

Ten after ten, and back I went to the receiver, ready to call them when they called CQ. My DX included, up to this time, the West Indies, Netherlands, England, France and Scotland—not too bad. I only needed an Asiatic contact for my WAC (worked all continents), but so far I had heard nothing from that part of the world. Of course there was a whole week ahead of me, and a lot could happen before then. During the hour I got my French stations, five in all, plus a Belgian station.

The Family Retire

Ten forty-five, and the family having been in and out of the room since the contest started, they finally went to bed, leaving the house in silence and the cat and me to keep each other company. The CW (code) was starting to come through heavy

Another view of the rotary beam antenna tower; the operator is repairing one of the wires.

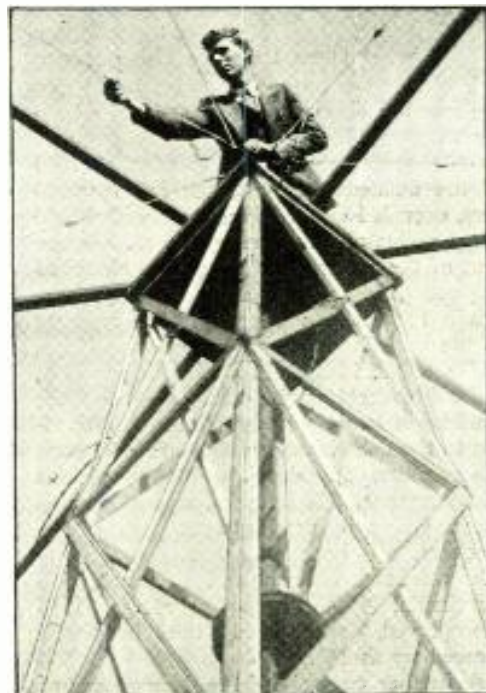


Mr. England is seen standing on the tower supporting his beam antenna. More than once he had to crawl up that ladder and see what was wrong with the antenna on a "dark and stormy night."

some other time to shave! It was only on about five minutes and I made up for lost time by working six G's and another GM which was the last up to nine o'clock. Not too bad, considering the delays.

French Contact

Another hour on its way and no idea of what it held. The French stations were beginning to come through—maybe I could work a couple to boost my score. I slowly tuned down the band and VP6MR calling CQ Canada, that sounded easy, and after a short call I finally *contacted* him. I got my number from him, but we still continued the QSO (contact). After a description of his "rig," he continued on the location of Barbados and a rough description of the West Indies—from the type of weather to his own kind of work. We had quite a QSO with no QRM for either of us. Time



Life Busy HAM

but the earphones helped a little. The wind was coming up and the wheel of the beam antenna was beginning to turn back and forth slowly. A lot of local stations which were not in the contest signed off, sleep being the better proposition, and this also improved the listening part of my problem. I had the usual run of luck in contacting stations, but had heard nothing in the line of DX for ten minutes. The favorite pastime seemed to be tuning from one end of the band to the other, over and over. A path was worn from the chair to the back of the transmitter, from changing frequencies so often.

Down over the band again and T12AV was calling CQ with an R8 signal; success at last, if I could hook him.

Beam Antenna Out of Control!

A short call and back he came, but not receiving me so well, so I got up to turn the antenna and snap, *off came the chain*—a very unpleasant situation. The QSO was completed, with lots of tough listening at the other station. Then came the problem of climbing up on the roof and repairing the damage at eleven-thirty at night, a slight wind, and nobody to hold the light for me! Out came the ladder and up I went, fixing pulleys, straightening wires. Back to the room and exactly twelve o'clock, *Everything and everybody was on the air!* So far I hadn't heard an Asiatic—if it were only my luck to contact one.

I started off the hour with an HK (Colombia, S.A.) and an ON in Belgium. From twelve o'clock on to five o'clock in the morning I just sat in my chair and worked the stations on the average of four or five an hour.

A Fine "Log"

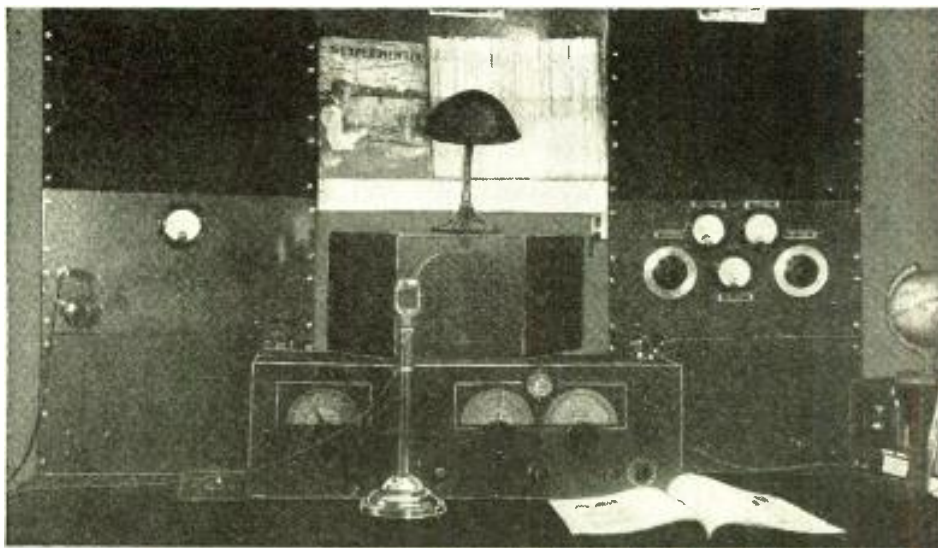
Five o'clock and quite a nice report "log" to show for my hours of patient listening and talking on the air. It became impossible to keep my eyes open, and the stations seemed to fade away as I slowly began to get drowsy. I shut off the transmitter and receiver, wound up the clock, set the alarm for eleven that morning, and dropped down on the couch, falling asleep immediately.

Eleven o'clock and the sun brightly shining, the sky was as clear as could be with no signs of rain for the present. I turned on the receiver and listened across the band, but there wasn't much on. Ten meters seemed to be quite alive, if only the antenna would work down there. It was worth a try at least. I got the rig all in working order after a few delays and tried to work somebody. I called CQ until I was hoarse and then tried calling other stations; but it just wouldn't work. I finally decided it was the antenna, and went outside to look over the problem. It wouldn't work no matter how hard I tried to fix it, so that meant keeping on twenty meters. By this time lunch was ready and I was summoned for it.

Foreign Contacts Galore!

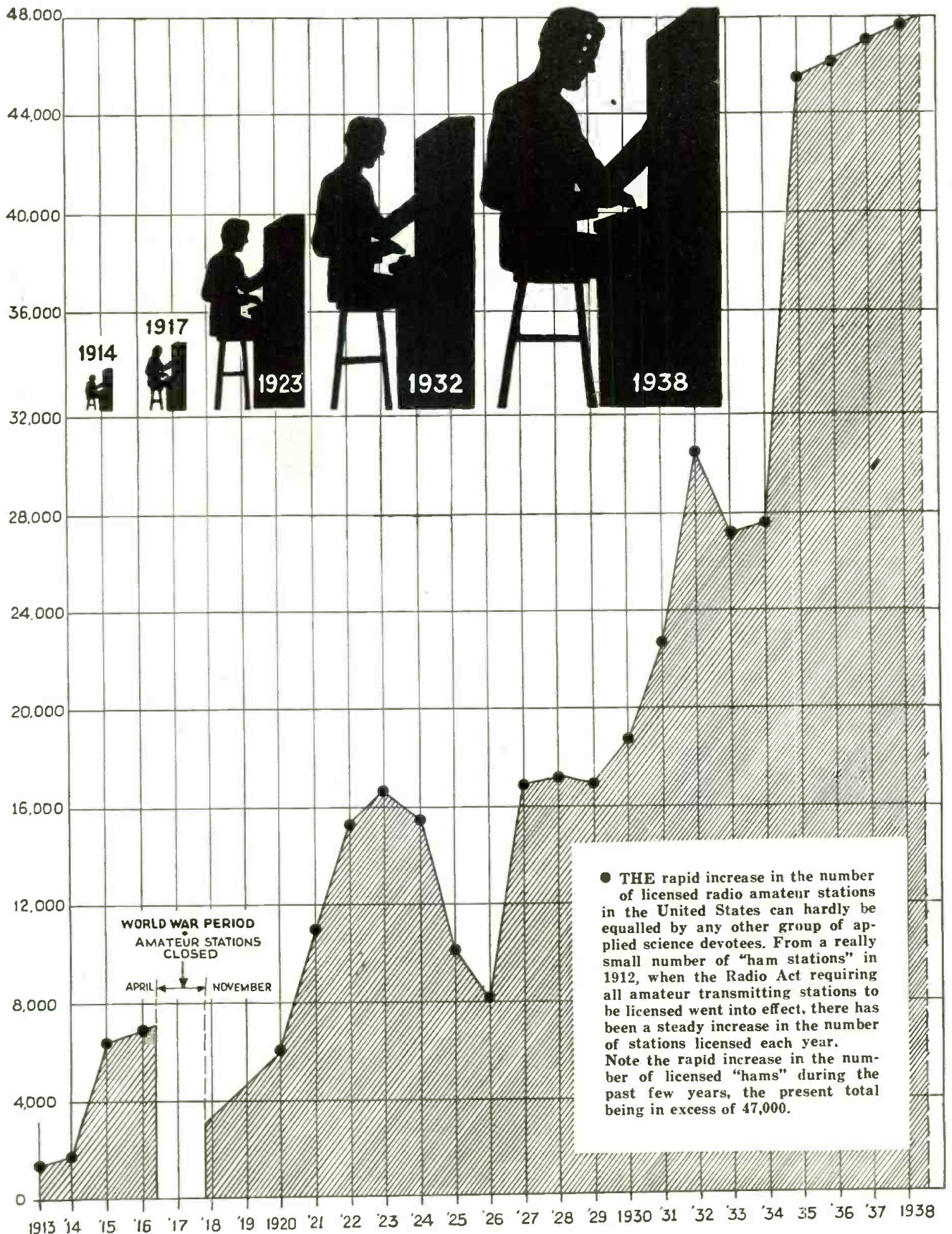
Ten after one and I again went downstairs. The desk had to be cleaned up a little bit after the night before. Papers and books, pencils and pens, paper that had been torn into small pieces while trying to get a call letter through. Clear at last; now to try and work somebody. I began by working England, four in succession, followed by an HK, and then France. A couple of
(Continued on page 377)

The elaborate receiving equipment at station VE3QL, where stations roll in from all over the world.



Drawings above show some of the incidents in the daily life of a busy "ham".

Rapid Growth of Radio Amateurs



Want to Learn Foreign Languages?

Hon. Michael Norton, B. A.
(England)

Mr. Norton has worked out a system, which—when used in conjunction with a short-wave receiver—enables you to learn a foreign language easily.



● THE short waves are bringing many foreign language programs to the United States. The American citizen seems to be more enterprising than the European. He wants to learn *foreign* languages so that he will miss nothing.

Over here in Europe, we miss about 60 per cent of what is on the air, some of us even more. I have learned four *foreign* languages and have used various methods. The fourth language I learned was Italian, and I did this mostly by listening to radio programs from Italy. I feel sure that if you want to learn to speak a language and to understand it when spoken, then learn by radio. But learn by a system! In teaching myself, I have found the following method the soundest.

Spend the first week in just getting to know the *sound* of the language. Just listen to the language over the radio for as long a time as possible every day! Don't try and understand it at first, but try and imitate it as if you were a child mimicking a grown-up person. You will soon be able to repeat little words to yourself. You may not know what you are saying, but you will be saying it correctly, more correctly than others who have been learning much longer by other methods.

At this stage, you can begin to learn just the elementary rules of the language from a *self-tuition* book giving the imitated pronunciation. The grammar need not be closely studied, but a knowledge of the construction of the language will be a great help in guessing it from the radio. The first step in disentangling a language is to be able to identify the parts of speech. When you can do this, you will be able to use a dictionary. During the first week of listening, there will have been some words which you have heard several times. Those that you remember, you can look up in a dictionary. You can guess some of them. When you know a few words, you can guess a lot more.

The subject matter that you will have to deal with will be the weather forecast, the news and possibly advertisements. When you can understand a sentence here and there, try and get an idea of the subject matter, and don't bother about details. If you concentrate on any detail, you lose



By fitting a simple switch attachment to your receiver, headphone reception may be enjoyed and is a great aid in studying "foreign" languages.

Left—A pair of good headphones and a switch and cable like that shown provide "private" reception.

about three sentences that come after.

From the beginning practice repeating to yourself any sentences that you have remembered. You will soon be able to anticipate call signs, advertisements, and parts of the weather forecast. Now you should practice saying them over in unison with the announcer. When you can understand most of the news, you will be able to understand only some of the talks. Broadcast talks may be divided into two classes: elementary and advanced. When you have mastered all the news, you will be able to understand all the elementary talks, for they will be delivered slowly and with a good deal of explanation.

The talks which are not elementary are usually technical; though not so technical that you, as a student of the language, should ignore them. They deal with the topics most discussed in the country from

which they come. To understand these talks, you must read the language, but it is best if you read what is of current interest. After reading newspapers and then periodicals, a light novel need not prove too difficult, provided that you keep your mind on the plot and do not bother too much about details—just as you have been doing in your listening.

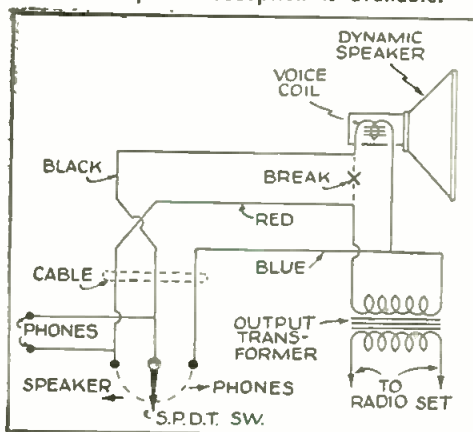
The reading of stories and novels will help you to master the abstract words that you will not have met much in the news. You should therefore pay special attention to these. Having learned to understand the different styles of different writers on various subjects, you will find that you can now follow the most difficult talks. When you can easily understand all the talks given by all the varying types of people, you can claim a very good knowledge of the language.

Some people might think that you could gain only a limited knowledge of a language from listening in. On the contrary, an extensive knowledge will be yours. Starting with the most simple and ordinary topics of the time and the weather, you progress step by step to the arts and to all sorts of branches of modern technical development. You will hear many different voices and accents. But remember that anyone speaking with the accent of an announcer is most likely to be understood by the largest number of people in the country to which the announcer belongs. You will have copied the *right* man.

Now you want to begin *listening*. Remember to turn up the volume control of your radio for foreign languages. You must do this because you want to copy what you hear. When an artist copies a picture, he

(Continued on page 372)

The diagram below shows how to connect the simple switching system, whereby headphone or loudspeaker reception is available.



Local HAM Gossip

A new Department—you can help make this a valuable and entertaining feature. Rush news of Ham club activities to "Local Ham Gossip" Editor, c/o this magazine.



Lee R. Kemberling, W8ESN, who tells the interesting story of the great 5-meter "Field Meet" held in Toledo, Ohio.

● THE Toledo Ultra High Frequency

Ass'n is made up of a group of hams and DXers interested in ultra-high frequency work. This group held meetings at the homes of members until the membership passed 15. All this time, Lee R. Kemberling, W8ESN, was watching their progress and was building his new radio shack in the rear of his home. The size of this building is 22 x 27 ft. When the shack was about completed, he went to one of the meetings of the Association, and gave a long talk on getting one's license and just what had been done in the past on Ultra Hi Freq. He added that if the "gang" wanted to grow right and get some place, they should have a room in which to meet besides the homes of the members, as many fellows would come to a public meeting place, although they would not go to private homes. He offered the TUHFA his shack, as a meeting place; it will hold about 50 to 75 in the large room 18' x 22'.

The TUHFA held the first meeting there in October, with a membership of 12. In the first 2 months the membership went to 25, meeting every Tuesday night at 7 p.m. W8ESN talks on the F.C.C. laws and gives code lessons for one hour. This group grew until they had to put a limit on it! Now over half the members have licenses and more will be going up later this year. This is largely attributed to W8ESN's talks and code lessons. At W8ESN he has put 250 watts on 5 meters and, beginning the first of September, will be on the air every third night with code and talks on amateur radio for one hour at 7 p.m. Lee Kemberling is now an Honorary Member of the Association and Activity Manager of programs. At the close of the summer activities on July 12, the membership was 25, with 20 more

5-METER-5 FIELD MEET JULY, 10

OTTAWA PARK, 10A.M.

PRIZES HIDDEN 5 METER XMTR HUNT. PRIZES
FOR BEST HOME BUILT ULTRA HI FREQ RECEIVER, TRANS-RECEIVER
BRING YOUR LUNCH. LEMONADE FREE
SPONSORED BY TOLEDO ULTRA HI-FREQ. ASS'N. & TOLEDO RADIO CLUB
CALL CHAIRMAN W8ESN LEE R. KEMBERLING, FOREST 3695-J

Card announcing 5-meter "Field Meet" of the Toledo Hams. Live Stuff!

waiting on the list. The 5-Meter Field Meet closed the summer. The officials of the TUHFA are: Bernard Shonebarger, Pres.; Lawrence Gilsdorf, Vice-Pres.; Dean Seaman, Recording Sec'y; Stephen Petroll, Treas., and Lee R. Kemberling, Activities Manager. All mail is sent to the Radio Shack W-8-E-S-N, Box No. 3, Toledo, Ohio.

TUHFA & TRC Field Meet

Starting on Sunday July 10, the gang had a good start before 10 a.m. First the Receiver prizes were given for the best Ultra Hi home-made receiver, rated both for looks and operation. We had 18 receivers set up, and as we could not get a.c. at the park where we were going to hold the meet, the gang went over to W8ESN's Radio Shack and cleaned out the side yard and in the rear of the shack, this giving us room for over 100 cars to park and a place to hold the meeting. The Receiver prize was won by a Mr. C. H. Peters, with a set which would operate on a.c. or 6 volts d.c. Second prize, Ralph Kachenmeister, receiver both a.c.—6 volt d.c. portable. This took until noon—time out for lunch. We had 65 gallons of lemonade made up and kept a 10 gallon jug going all the time. By noon there were over 90 hungry guests. A half-hour talk on "Benefit of Ultra Hi Frequency to Mankind" was given by Lee R. Kemberling (W8ESN). This lasted over 1½ hours, as there were many questions asked. After this a talk on Ultra Hi Frequency Antennas was given by Dean Seaman and Stephen Petroff. They did a lot of drawing on the blackboard to show the

various types of "ultra high" antennas.

At 3 p.m., the 5-meter "Xmtr hunt" started. This Xmtr was hidden the day before by Burt Holmes, Ed Martin and yours truly, and was tested after midnight to make sure it would cover the city, which it did. This Xmtr is W8ESN's portable, and has an output of 10 watts crystal controlled on 5. There were 56 cars in this hunt and over 150 were at the meet. About 70 were from out of town, some coming over 200 miles. W8ESN put on the big 5-meter rig which has 250 watts and all the cars left the radio shack and started out to look for the hidden Xmtr. After 5 minutes on the air with the large rig, the gang got word to start to look for the small rig. B. Holmes and E. Martin heard the large rig sign off and at once put the hidden Xmtr on the air and placed a tone on the sig. Every 15 minutes they stopped and gave the call. At 3:35 p.m., C. H. Peters found the Xmtr, got his slip and reported back to the radio shack. At 4:10 p.m., A. M. Cooper (W8BHL) with Gail Griner (W8DPN) found the Xmtr and at 4:25 p.m. Hal Shafer was third. This ended the hunt and W8ESN went on the air with the large rig and called all the other cars into the shack. This hunt was one of the best that has been put on around this part of the country and the boys from out of town would like to have one later on. A hunt like this makes the gang get up on their toes and keeps them working on new rigs all the time.

At 5 p.m., the transceiver prize was called. Receivers were set up at the shack. We had three: Super-Skyrider, HRO and a Hammarlund Pro., all working on 5 meters. We would start the three cars out that had transceivers in them and would work them at given spots in and out of the city, a distance of over 5 miles, checking each car off in ¼; sixteen were in this. First prize went to Ray Lewis, Pres. Toledo Radio Club with L. Gilsdorf (W8RQ1) at the mike. Third prize to Dean and Richard Seaman with Ray Zeh (W8RQ1) at the mike. Third prize to C. H. Peters, with Paul Luckman (W8KPII) at the mike.

This took 2 hours and it was now 7 p.m.—time to sign off after a very interesting
(Continued on page 368)

WANTED

● Local correspondents, who are able to send us from time to time news items (with photographs, when possible) of the activities among Hams, DXers and amateur radio personalities.

Regular space rates will be paid for the most interesting items submitted by anyone, each month.

To avoid errors, please typewrite your copy.

The name of each correspondent will be printed at the bottom of the items sent in.

Address—"Local Ham Gossip" Editor,
RADIO & TELEVISION,
99 Hudson Street,
New York, N. Y.

What Do You Think?



Hi! Fellers! Did You Send That QSL Card?

Editor,

There has been a lot of "pro and con" talk about this SWL-QSL business.

It seems like the hams, and I mean HAMS who are always belching about SWL's sending cards to them requesting a QSL, are about at the end of their rope; I believe that it would be a good idea for them to give up ham radio, before they find themselves in a state of nervous prostration.

I have been in the amateur game only 18 years now and feel that I still have enough reciprocity left to send a card to a SWL who requests one.

I also have a better feeling towards the SWL than I do a lot of hams. I have been trying here to make WAS on 20 meters and have asked the fellows (some are skunks) to pse QLS as I needed their state for WAS (worked all states) and believe it or not, I have gone to the trouble to write them a letter three times already, and do you think they QSL'd? Well, the truth is, they did *not!* Would you call this ham radio? If so, then the game is going to the dogs. The stations I refer to are—W9 in Willmar, Minn., a W9 in Emporia, Kans., a W5 in Kerrville, Tex., a W4 in Atlanta, Ga., a W9 in Louisville, Ky., a boy, oh boy, a hundred others. If you would like to publish their full call letters, I would be more than pleased to furnish them.

I know a W4 who receives an average of 200 SWL cards a month, *and he answers all of them;* I don't receive that amount but what I do receive. *I acknowledge.*

But these mugs, lugs or bugs, whatever they are, who do not QSL the stations they work when asked to, are not fit to be called *amateurs.*

I have had punks tell me over the air that I had better send my card first, if I wanted one of theirs. Suppose we all felt this way? Phew, the whole business is getting rotten, or is it the smell of these certain SKUNKS?

Then there are the hams and I mean *real ones* whom I have QSL'd, who make the other no-good punks look like the rankest of beginners. These fellows are worth their weight in gold, just to have their friendship.

These squawkers who complain about the SWL who puts R9 reports on their cards must be crazy. If they do not believe their signals to be that loud, they should do something about improving their efficiency or their antenna, so it would be that loud.

I am open for any comments or debate—come one, come all.

If I have stirred the gander in you punks out there, then this article has served its purpose. And do you want to hear more from me? If so, I will spill plenty.

But I believe a word to the wise (?) is sufficient. *An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth* is my motto. What? 73 es CUL.

LOUIS C. BREMER, W3LE,
130 S. Broadway,
Baltimore, Md.

Constructive Criticism

Editor,

I am about the very last person to throw brickbats but I just can't help throwing a few. I feel this way since the day I read the April 1938 issue.

What is the matter with 160 meter transmitters? Seems that the fellow with the class A ticket should get all of the gravy for 20 and 80 meter rigs.

In the receiver diagrams why not let the readers wind their own coils instead of buying them ready made and then tearing them apart later and removing turns of wire, etc.?

Your radio log is the most perfect I have ever seen. I have been trying to log one foreign station for 5 years and only succeeded after locking up the schedule and frequency in SHORT WAVE & TELEVISION.

The November issue of RADIO & TELEVISION

will be an

"Advanced Radio Amateur Number"

It will contain valuable articles for the beginner, as well as the advanced HAM. Transmitter and Receiver construction and other valuable information which you can't afford to miss.

I can't see why you are against S-W Adaptors. I have been using a five-tube superheterodyne converter with a very sensitive 9-tube broadcast receiver for 5 years; I really started logging stations a month ago when I started using an adaptor, plugged into a midget receiver which is home-made (the audio section consists of a single 27 and a single 47 and a 24 detector). When I use a 24 tube in the adaptor I get good results down to 19 meters; when I use a 27 tube I get down below 10 meters.

FRANK SAJ,
818 Carrol,
Buffalo, N. Y.

A Real S-W Fan

Editor,

Here's from a reader since 1932 April issue, and I still have the copy. I've missed some of course since then and having very limited means, financially, I expect to miss some copies in the future. But thanks to friendly hams, I've come smilin' through thus far. I've thought many times of writing to ye old "ed," but know you're busy as heck, so procrastination is the thief of time, etc. Say, the ex-YL says all radio men are nuts; how about it?

Oh yeah! Well she listened to S. & L. "ringside" via short wave. My hookup is from S. W. C. mag., how's that; we have three B.C. receivers, but SW phone and CW for me. I get the drowsy cheer from the ex-YL about three a.m., but what care I after 10 years "on the air." Now pardon a long note, but the air is quite rite now, so I'm scratching the Parker.

Glancing up at the chronometer, I see it's
(Continued on page 376)

(1) Listening post of Nicola Cannata, 1003 So. Halsted St., Chicago, Ill. (2) Prize Winner Zana Kandle, also from Chicago, 7953 Dobson Ave.; she uses a Midwest receiver. (3) Jim Groll, North Chicago St., Dwight, Ill. (4) Station VE4ACP, R. Peters, Jr., 356 Aikins St., Winnipeg, Man., Can.

Fourth Silver Trophy Awarded to

William Orr, W2HCE

Bronxville, N. Y.

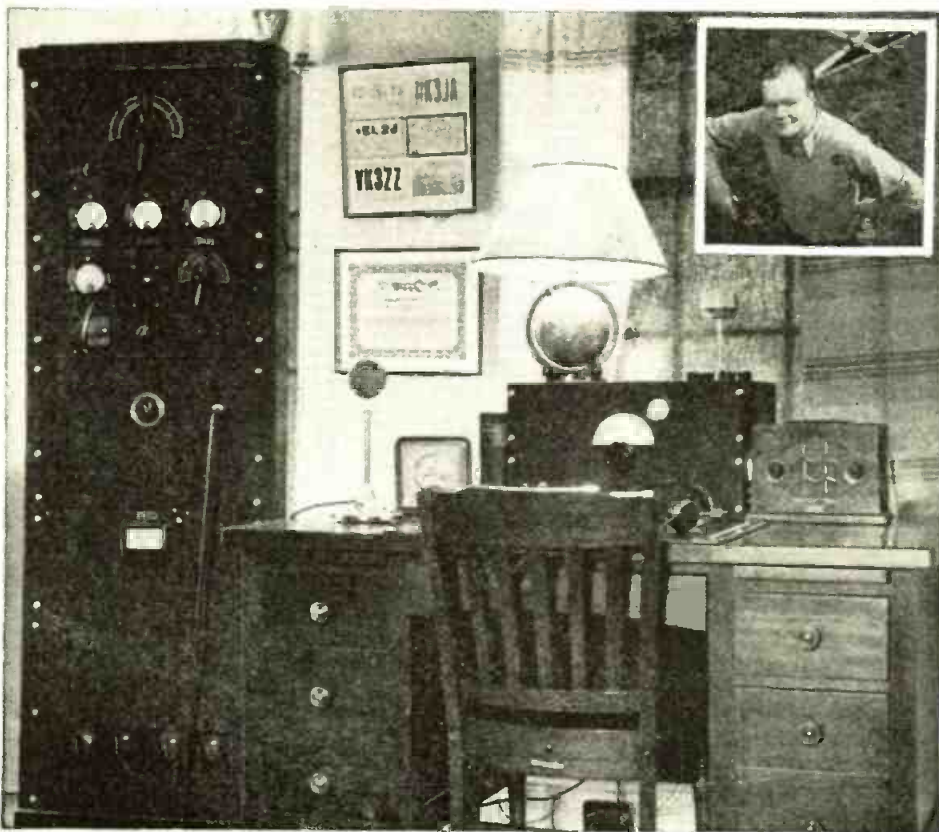
For Best HAM STATION Photo of the Month

● THE transmitter rig is to the left and is working on 20 meter phone. The rig uses a 41 xtal oscillator on 7.088 kc., a RK39 doubler to 14.176 kc., link coupled to a 805 in the class "C" amplifier, running at 200 watts input. This R.F. equipment is contained in the two top panels. In the next panel, the third from the top, is the speech amp. This uses a 57 pentode, 57 triode, push-pull 56's, and push-pull 45's as drivers. The modulators, which consist of 4-46's in push-pull parallel are in the next panel, with the square meter. The bottom panel contains the 500 v. 0.5 amp. power-supply for the modulators, and the 1250 volt 0.3 amp. supply which supplies juice to the 805. The four 866's can be seen in the cut out. On the table to the right is the D-104 crystal microphone, electric clock, and the receiver.

The receiver is a home-built job. The line-up is 6K7 R.F. amp., 6A8, 1st det., 6C5 H.F. osc., 2 6K7's I.F. with three iron core 465 kc. I.F. transformers. A "R" meter is incorporated in the I.F. amp. in a Wheatstone bridge circuit. 6H6 2d det. and noise-silencer, 6C5 and 6I6 audios. The receiver uses a Tobe tuning unit which covers 20, 40, 80 and 160 vy fb. In front of the receiver are a pair of Brush xtal phones. To the right of the receiver is a small B.C.L. midget for use when 20 m. is flat. On the wall are the Phone "WAC" ticket and the six QSL's that brought it.

I have one of your "globe" lamps on the receiver. The doohickey to the right of the lamp is a tricky match stand. The whole station, from the antenna to the receiver, is home-made.

Mr. Orr's first-rate Ham shack, located at 11 Sunny Brae Place, Bronxville, N. Y., has been the scene of much experimenting. Antennas and transmitters of every kind imaginable have been "given the works" at this station. He tells you about some of them in his very interesting description of the station.



This beautiful silver trophy stands 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ " high and is to be awarded monthly by RADIO & TELEVISION magazine for the best photo of a Ham station. The silver statue stands on a handsome bakelite base on which is a silver plate. The name of the winner will be engraved on this plate before the trophy is sent to him.

The antenna is a rotary beam supported on a 36 ft. telephone pole erected in the back yard. The antenna is 17' x 17' square and is bi-directional. It gives a 4R gain on receiving and a 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ R gain in transmitting over $\frac{1}{2}$ wave doublet. The antenna is fed with a quarter wave stub and 45 ft. of coaxial cable. It is extremely effective, as we have worked 55 countries on phone in all continents. WAC on phone was made with 120 watts in 1936. We worked VU2CQ several times and got reports ranging up to R8. The antenna is rotated by means of two ropes from the shack.

So much for the present rig. Hr's some other dope you might be interested in.

I'm 19 years old and am in the first year
(Continued on page 376)

Let's Listen In with

Joe Miller

"DX" Editor

● HERE 'tis, the October issue, and with it the end of our second year with **SHORT WAVE & TELEVISION**.

We can certainly look back over the past two years with pleasant memories of the many FB acquaintances we have made among our numerous readers.

As this article is being written, in the midst of the August heat wave, dx conditions are fairly good, but not dependable from day to day. The still high noise level mars many good dx signals, often being the difference between hearing or losing the call letters of the weaker fones.

By the time this article appears in print, the fall upswing in improved reception will definitely be evident, with continually lowering QRN and a pick-up in strength of many signals.

Begin tuning the 10 meter ham band as soon as you read this, if not yet, as this band begins its fall and winter peak during this month. Best times for good dx between 10 am.-1 pm., with a peak near noon.

During the past month, we realized a much-cherished and coveted objective, in our final realization of 100 VAC, which mark we have since comfortably passed. Never did we imagine, when we began SW dxing somewhat less than 5 years ago, that such an attainment was even within the realm of possibility!

To mind comes the occasion, 3 short years ago, when a well-known dxer's mark of all of 6 VAC was challenged by a then well-known dx writer as *impossible!* Impossible that any dxer could have amassed such a remarkable total, and this only 3 years ago!

And so short waves go on, with yesterday's impossibility today's reality in achievement.

As the world's first dxer to reach 100 VAC, we are moved to inaugurate a new dx organization, for which we hope some of you may eventually become eligible, i.e., the Century VAC Club, certainly the most exclusive dx organization one could imagine, hi, what with the *only* requirement being that one possess veris on fone totalling 100 VAC!

Now to DX:



FRENCH INDO-CHINA

Radio Boy-Landry, 9.76 mc., at Saigon, was well received one am. during July, despite QRN. The 31 meter band, year in and year out, is the most reliable SW dx band, and most anything on the air, no matter where it's located on this ever-shrinking little globe of ours, will sooner or later be logged, if one but perseveres, on this popular SW BC band. Boy-Landry transmits on 3 waves now, 6.20, 11.71, and on 9.76 mc. Look for Saigon on the 2 higher frequencies in September, in the early am. hours.

QRA: Ets. Boy-Landry, Dept. Radio, 17, Place A Foray, Saigon, French Indo-China. Rene Lebon, whose station card and photo we showed in our last article, operates in Hanoi as F18AC, a famous Asiatic amateur call. He sends us some news of new SW BC stations in Indo-China.

Radio Hanoi I, 9.51 mc., and Radio Hanoi II, 11.90 mc., using 15 and 150 watts respectively, and built personally by Rene, are now on the air daily, midnight, 2 am. and 6-10 am. EST. Rene adds that these stations are owned by the Radio Club de l'Indo-chine, and that all correct reports will be verified. Address the Radio Club de l'Indo-chine, Radio Hanoi, Hanoi, French Indo-China.

CHINA

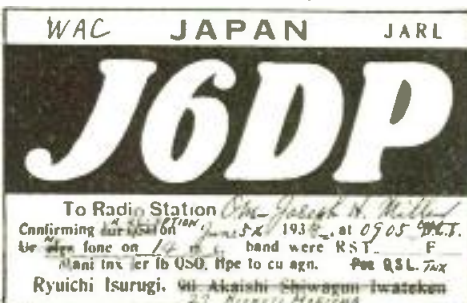
XTJ, 11.69 mc., Hankow, was very well heard one morning while in contact with XTS, 11.44 mc., at Swatow, also a line signal. Both stations used inverted speech. This at 5:25 am.

XTJ daily broadcasts from 7-7:30 am. as "The Voice of China," and is very well heard on the West Coast, both while phoning at all hours of am. and broadcasting.

NGX, 9.20 mc., also at Hankow, which relays the powerful XGOW, BCB station at Hankow, is being well heard on the West Coast from 5-10 am, according to Ashley Walcott, W6. Tho the assigned frequency of NGX is 9.20 mc., the station varies this frequency inside the limits of 9-9.25 mc., to avoid interference, probably purposely created, by the enemy forces. XGX uses 150 watts. In a verification of XGX to Mr.

Left: J6DP (Photo) Here's a really FB DX shack, which RYUICHI proudly presents! FB, OM!

Below: An outstanding DX QSL card: white letters on blue background.



F88AB—A charming photo of "OM" Paul and the Junior "OP," all set in his FB DX shack to work some real DX. And Paul is some DXer!

Walcott, T. Y. Woo, Director, the Central Broadcasting Administration, Central Executive Committee of Kuomintang, Chungking, China, states that a powerful new 35 kw. transmitter is being installed, and will be broadcasting within a few months. Reports on XGN should be sent to Mr. Woo.

FINLAND

Lahti is now being reported by numbers of alert dxers throughout the U. S., mostly on the 31 meter band, where its signal is heard at 9.50 mc., its schedule being 12:15-5 pm. On 11.78 mc., the schedule is 1:05 am.-12:05 pm. This data is contained in a veri to Ed Goss, W2, N. Y. State manager for I. D. A., for the 9.50 mc. wave. Veri states power is 1 kw.

Lahti is also reported with an exceptional rating of R9 for the West Coast by Max Fisher, W6, on 15.189 mc., one morning, from 12:30 am. till after 3 am. Max adds that a woman makes announcements, these in English, on the hour, with often a 2-5 minute silence between annts. When heard in early am., this station broadcasts physical exercises, conducted by either a man or woman, accompanied by an organ. Watch for this new country to add to ur logs. Lahti QSLs promptly. QRA in last issue.

MADAGASCAR

Radio Tananarive, with its 3rd verification here (this for 10.95 mc.), has been, to put it aptly, "cleaned up," as we already had the 9.5 and 6 mc. veris of this ace catch. Look for this rare dx "sig" this fall and winter on frequencies of 9.38 and 10.95 mc. on a schedule of 12:30-12:45 am., 3:30-4:30 am., 10-11 am. wkdays; and 2:30-4 am. Sundays. Our luck has always held up on the Sunday transmissions between 2:30-4 am.

FED. MALAY STATES

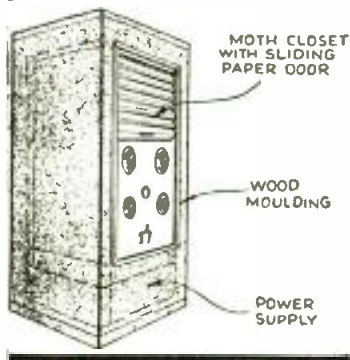
ZGE, 6.21 mc. (now heard on 6.24) at Kuala Lumpur, at last QSL'd our hopeful reports of April, 1937, with its station card, which will be shown next month (conditions permitting). We had the ill-fortune to forget to write ZGE c/o the Malayan Amateur Radio Society, which organization operates the transmitter, the same one as used for commercial telephony under the call ZGB. However, a follow-up report, (Continued on page 379)

Radio Kinks

Each month the Editor will award a 2 year subscription for the best kink submitted. All other kinks published will be awarded eight months' subscription to RADIO & TELEVISION. Look over these kinks; they will give you some idea of what is wanted. Send a typewritten or ink description with sketch, of your favorite to the Kink Editor.

Housing for Xmtr 1st Prize

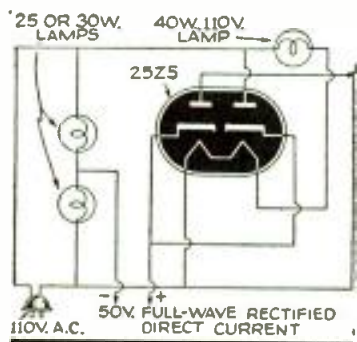
A sturdy moth-proof closet makes a first rate housing for a transmitter—and is very inexpensive. Those of the kind that are made with pressed wood panels on a wooden frame, and



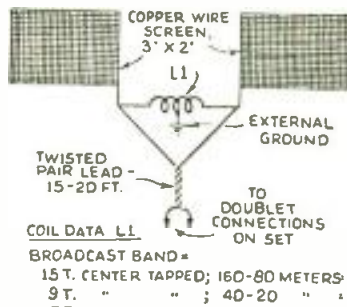
which are equipped with sliding corrugated cardboard doors are excellent, for the framework will hold up to 150 lbs. weight. The heaviest unit—the power supply—rests on the floor inside the closet, so need not be included when calculating the weight of the apparatus. These cabinets are 2 feet deep by 3 feet wide, and may be had either 4 feet or 6 feet high.—George Nichols.

Power Supply

A way of securing full-wave rectification of alternating current without the use of a power transformer is shown in the diagram. Two 25 or 30 watt incandescent lamps are connected in series across the 110 volt a.c. line, as shown, and the center point between them is used as the negative leg of the rectified voltage. The positive leg is

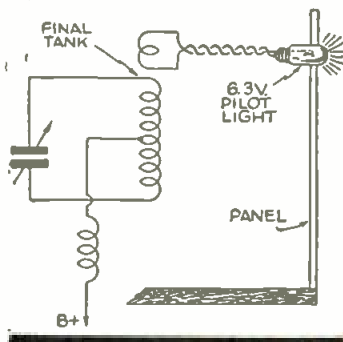


taken from the two cathode terminals of the 25Z5 rectifier tube, as shown. The voltage output with this arrangement is about 50 volts at low current drains. The 40-watt lamp is used to reduce the filament voltage for the 25Z5 to its proper point.—Russell Yost.



Aerial Hint

I have had considerable interference with radio reception in my locality and finally hit on the scheme described for UHF reception. The coils specified are wound with No. 26 d.c.c. wire on a 1/4" diameter tube, suspended between the two legs of the antenna. I have had most gratifying results with this arrangement, the noise pick-up being very low and the signal pick-up high.—Frank Owens.



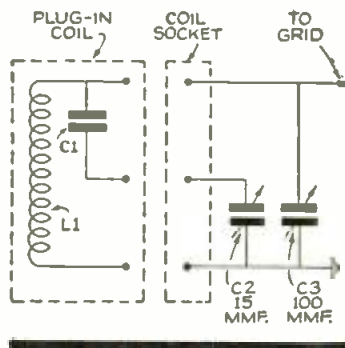
Carrier Indicator

A simple visual means of showing when a transmitter is on the air is to use a small wire loop coupled either to the final tank or to the oscillator coil of the transmitter. The ends of this loop are connected to a 6.3 volt pilot light on the front panel of the transmitter. When the transmitter is put on the air, the r.f. voltage induced in the loop will light up the 6.3 volt pilot bulb. Care must be taken that the coupling loop is not too close to the transmitter coils to prevent the bulb from being burned out.—Robert J. Ingelsby.

Even Bandspread

A particularly good way of assuring that any desired band is spread over an equal area on the tuning dial is shown here. A fixed condenser, C1, is mounted inside the plug-in coil form and connected as shown, in series with the bandspread tuning con-

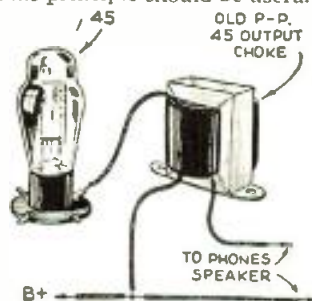
denser C2. If desired, C1 can be a variable condenser having a maximum capacity of 100 mmf. It should be adjusted so that the limits of any ham or broadcast band correspond to one complete rotation of band-



spread condenser C2. Without the use of condenser C1, it will be found that some bands will only cover a part of the rotation of the bandspread condenser while other bands will not be completely covered by one complete rotation of this condenser.—Homer Apple.

Phone & Speaker Kink

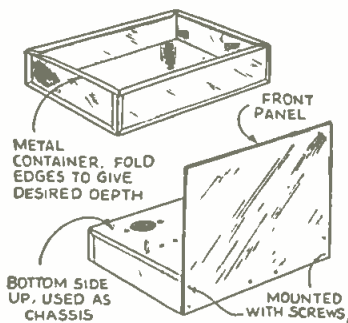
The diagram shows how I wired an output terminal for phones or loud speaker from a 45 tube. The inductance used is an old push-pull 45 output choke, and it works very well with phones or magnetic speaker. This principle should be useful in



sets using push-pull audio systems, by removing one of the power tubes and connecting the phones between the plate terminal on the socket of the tube removed and the B+.—M. P. McKay.

Low-Cost Chassis

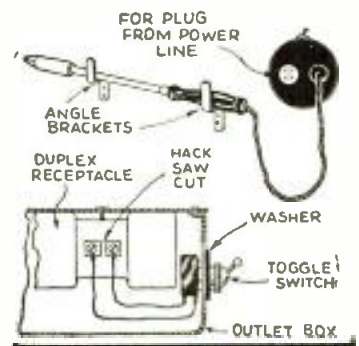
For experimental work a simple chassis may be fashioned at very little cost from tin containers such as are available from drug stores and garages. Baking pans will also serve for the purpose. With a pair of tins-



container so that it will be a 1/4" deeper than the desired chassis. Fold the extra 1/4" back to secure a smooth non-scratching edge. Holes for sockets, etc., can easily be cut with an old knife.—Jim Lattig, W9QJR.

Soldering Aids

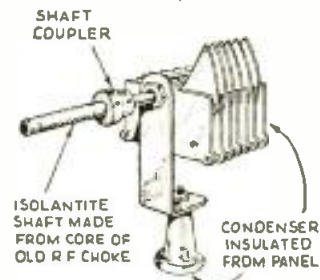
Two angle brackets mounted on the wall provide a resting place for the iron. If the iron is to be placed here while still warm, it is advisable to mount a piece of asbestos on the wall so



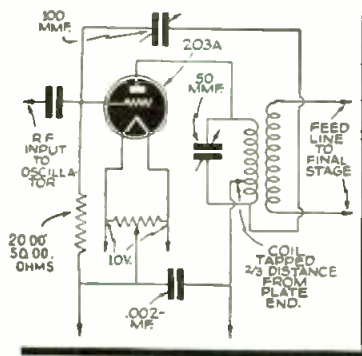
it will not be scorched. A duplex receptacle is needed, as shown in the sketch, and a toggle switch mounted on the side of a metal box provides a semi-permanent method of supplying power to the soldering iron. The toggle switch turns the iron on or off, as desired.—Lincoln Weeks.

Novel Condenser Shaft

It is frequently necessary to mount a condenser back of the metal panel on a transmitter or receiver and this arrangement requires the use of an insulated shaft. The drawing shows how an insulated section of shaft can be coupled to the condenser; the insulated section is made from the core of a pie-wound r.f. choke. The windings are cut off and the small metal caps on the ends are also removed. A shaft coupler completes the job.—Barnett Mitchell, W4EZI.



Question Box



Circuit for a regenerative doubler —1154

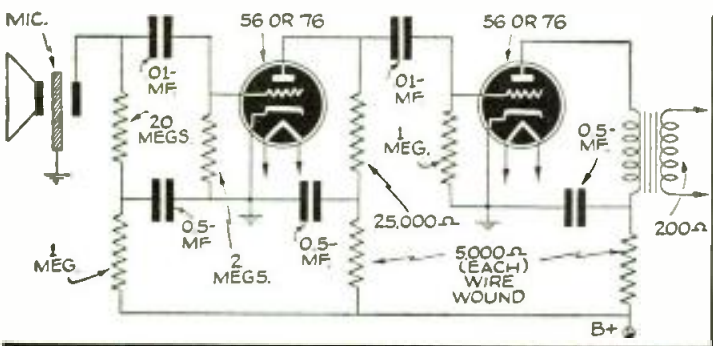
Frequency Doubler

I have a 203A and an 800 and would like to use either as a frequency doubler. I intend to use either of these tubes at frequencies up to about 14 or 15 megacycles. Can you furnish me with a diagram of a doubler, using either of these tubes, and also state which tube I should use? I have seen many diagrams of frequency doublers in your magazine but none have appealed to me for my particular need.—G. H. Harris, Watertown, N. Y.

A. A 203A makes a wonderful frequency doubler at frequencies up to about 15 mc.; a single one in a regenerative doubler circuit will put out close to 100 watts on 20 meters, when excited by a 40-meter crystal oscillator. This is more than enough to "kick the pants off" a pair of 852's in push-pull when inductively coupled to them. Thus we can have over 750 watts in the antenna on 14 mc. with only three stages. The efficiency of the 03A stage could be increased either by increasing the excitation or by lowering the input, but we can sacrifice a little efficiency for the sake of the output, because a 03A will dissipate 80 or 90 watts without getting too warm. Thus if the efficiency of the 03A is only about 60%, we can still get about 100 watts out of it without exceeding the dissipation rating of the tube. The diagram of the frequency doubler is shown. There is much controversy as to whether the circuit is regenerative, degenerative or neutralized, but in any event, the output is greatly increased over that of a straight doubler. The grid resistor should be between 2,000 and 5,000 ohms and if over 1000 volts is placed on the tube, some protection in the form of battery bias in addition to the resistor bias is advisable.

By substituting an 800 for the 03A, the circuit will function nicely on 10 meters, but the output will be limited to about 25 watts because of the lesser allowable plate dissipation on the tube. With the 800, about 90 volts of battery bias should be used in addition to the grid-leak bias, for protection in the event that the tube should lose excitation.

A Low-Level Amplifier



Hook-up for low-level amplifier with condenser microphone—1155

I have a large number of resistors on hand and would like to construct a high quality low-level audio frequency amplifier suitable for use with either a condenser or dynamic type microphone. This should be one for use with either the 56 or 76 type tubes. If possible could you publish a diagram of such an amplifier, giving list of parts?—Hiram Johnson, Harrisburg, Pa.

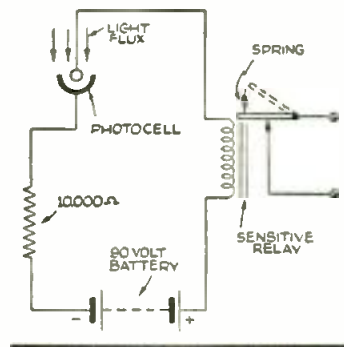
A. A number of inquiries have been received by this department requesting data for an amplifier, for use with either of the microphones mentioned. A diagram of such an amplifier is shown. With these microphones, an input transformer can be used, in which case the transformer secondary is connected directly from grid to ground across the 2 megohm grid-leak or resistor. With the use of an input transformer, we would eliminate the 20 and

1 meg. resistors and the .01 and .5 mf. conds. used to supply and isolate the d.c. polarizing voltage which places an initial charge on the "hot" plate of the condenser head.

Note that these tubes operate without bias. This is possible because of the small magnitude of the voltages involved. The output of the condenser head rarely exceeds 1/1000 volt. The gain of this amplifier is about 40 db, and the output can be connected to an amplifier designed to amplify the output of a double-button mike. This amplifier should be well shielded, especially if used in the vicinity of a transmitter, and should be kept far away from any power supply equipment, to avoid hum pickup. If a.c. is used on the heaters the heater circuit should be by-passed with 1 mf. condensers.

Photo-Cell Relay Circuit

Will you kindly publish a diagram of a simple photoelectric cell circuit, in which a sensitive relay can be made to operate. I would like to use this in connection with a circuit for a burglar alarm. I have the necessary apparatus on hand. All I would like is the diagram of the simplest relay system that I may use.—Harold M. Wilson, Cleveland, Ohio.

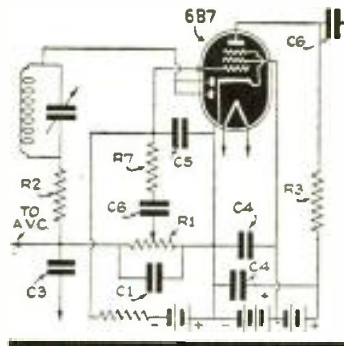


A simple photo-cell relay circuit —1156

A. There are any number of types of circuits that can be used in conjunction with photoelectric cells. However, one of the simplest photo-electric relay circuits is shown here. It is self-explanatory. A very sensitive relay should be used; one that will operate on about 30 microamperes. A very intense illumination or light source should be used.

A.V.C.-Fixed Bias Amplifier

I am constructing a superhet. receiver for all-wave operation but especially for reception on waves below 20 meters. In this receiver I wish to use a duplex-diode pentode of the 6B7 type as a half-wave rectifier and A.V.C., also as a fixed bias amplifier. Is it possible for me to secure a diagram showing how such a tube can be used as mentioned above? I intend to use all 6.3 volt heater tubes throughout the receiver.—Max Liebowitz, Montreal, Canada.



Simple A.V.C.-fixed bias amplifier —1157

A. The 6B7 is recommended for performing the simultaneous functions of A.V.C., detection and amplification. This 3-in-1 feature is important, allowing the constructor to choose whichever way he wishes to utilize the component units. Here is a diagram showing a half-wave detector, which utilizes both plates in parallel as the diode. The A.V.C. action is obtained by utilizing the voltage drop caused by the rectified current flowing through a resistor in the detector circuit.

A fee of 25c (stamps, coin or money order) is charged for letters that are answered by mail. This fee includes only hand-drawn schematics. We cannot furnish full-size working drawings or picture layouts. Letters not accompanied by 25c will be answered on this page. Questions involving considerable research will be quoted upon request. Names and addresses should be clearly printed on each letter.

An ADVANCED

Howard G. McEntee, W2FHP

High-Frequency Receiver

8-tube receiver covers 10, 20 and 40 meter bands. A high class set with bandspread, audio output meter, a built-in monitor, beat oscillator and a crystal filter.

● TO BEGIN with, the old receiver did not have sufficient "gimp" on the 20 meter band, and worse yet, it did not cover 10 meters at all. It was satisfactory, however, at 40 meters and the higher wavelengths. This led to the conclusion that the new job should be made to cover 40, 20 and 10 meters only. There is no reason why it cannot be used successfully on 5 meters, although no experiments have been conducted on this band. At this station, as at most others, a satisfactory 5 meter receiver was already at hand, and it was not desired to compromise the design too much. This receiver, then, is extra "hot" for 10 and 20, covers 40 in fine shape, and was designed with an eye to 5 meters.

Plug-In Coils Used

The highest efficiency called for plug-in coils, and being of a lazy type we did not care for the idea of lifting the cover and poking coils inside whenever a frequency shift was needed. Hence, a simplified means of inserting the coils through the front panel in one unit was worked out. The coil sets

when transmitting C.W., tuned the receiver to his own signal to improve keying or just to gloat over his own beautiful signal? The use of a *built-in* monitor has always seemed a fine solution to this problem, so such a unit is incorporated. Regeneration and tuning controls are right on the front panel, where they may be changed to suit. The monitor tube is also used as the beat oscillator, switching being accomplished by a relay as seen in the circuit diagram. This relay also has a set of contacts which open the B+ leads of the whole H.F. and I.F. portion of the receiver when the monitor is in operation. The relay operation is controlled by a switch incorporated in the monitor regeneration control. However, for ideal operation, the relay should be controlled by the same switch that turns on the transmitter, and for this purpose a pair of screw terminals are placed on the rear of the

chassis so that the monitor is turned on, and the B+ on all but tubes V5 and V6 turned off, when these terminals are closed. A separate volume control for the monitor makes it unnecessary to disturb settings of receiver controls in any manner when using the monitor. This latter control is mounted on the shield of the B.F.O. compartment, directly over the relay.

Standard plug-in coils are used for the monitor with the addition of a 50 mmf. trimmer condenser placed in each coil. This acts as the *tank* condenser while the monitor panel control provides *bandspread* tuning.

Audio Output Meter

Another unusual feature of the receiver is the addition of an *audio output meter*. This is very useful, particularly for radio-fone work, and some very useful data may be secured when the A.F. voltage is noted in conjunction with the carrier strength as shown by the "R Meter." Of course, since no attempt is made to match the impedance of the meter to that of the output circuit, the true A.F. output capabilities of the set are not registered, but the meter is useful mainly for comparative purposes. Possessing a basic range of 0-1 V. A.C., the 13,000 ohm resistor gives a rough multiplication of 10, which is a sufficient range in view of the existing impedance mismatch.

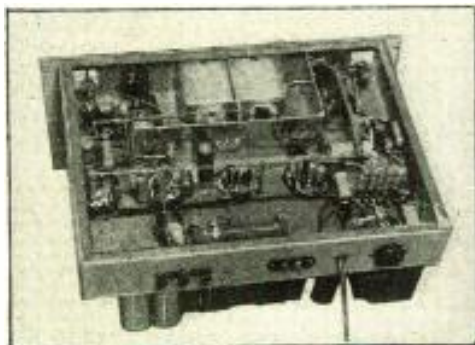
Crystal Filter

The balance of the receiver is more or less straightforward, with possible exception of the *crystal filter* circuit. An I.F. of 1600 kc. is employed, and the use of the conven-

(Continued on page 382)



are completely self-contained and protected. Several ideas in receiver features have long been attractive to us. Who has not,



Bottom view.

Note the handsome appearance of the Communications Receiver built by Mr. McEntee and shown above, together with loud-speaker, which is housed in the grilled cabinet at the right.

Rear view of the receiver, showing the power transformer and chokes.

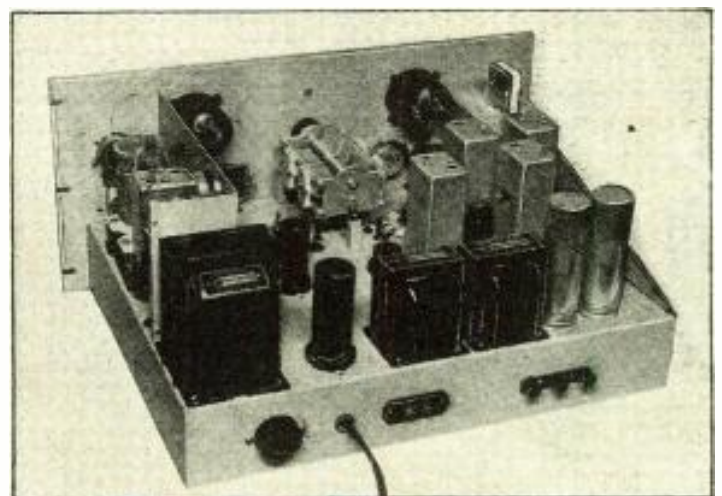
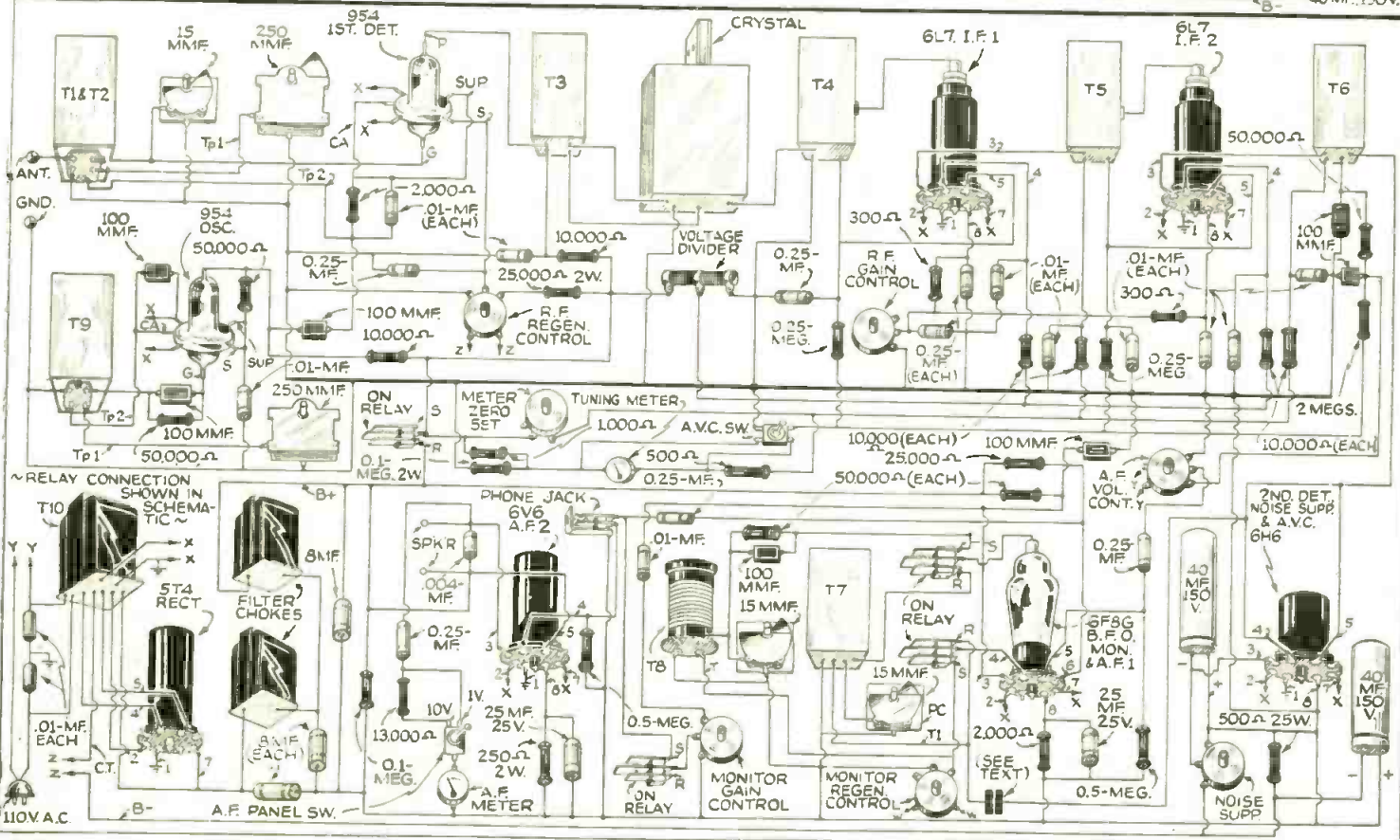
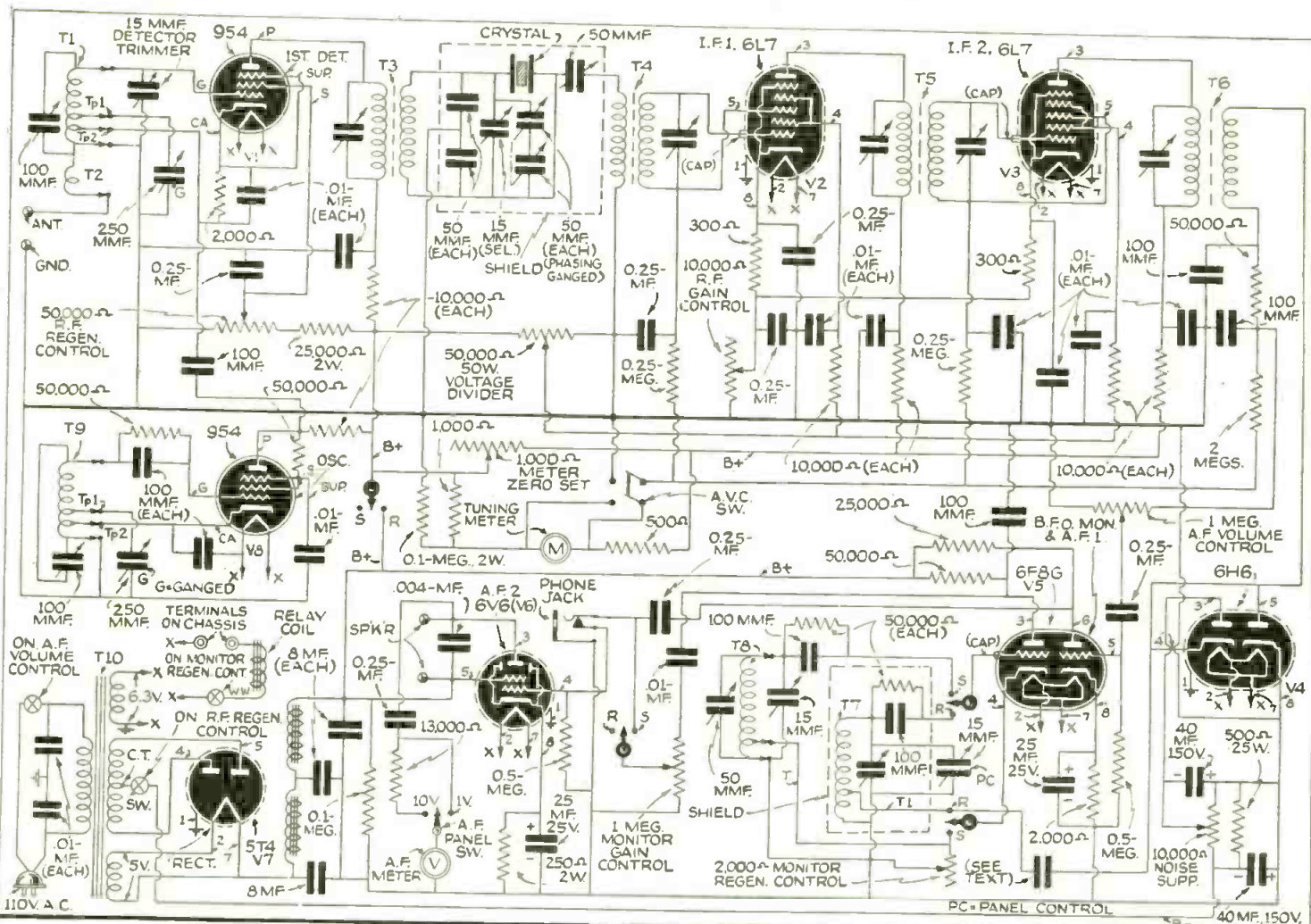
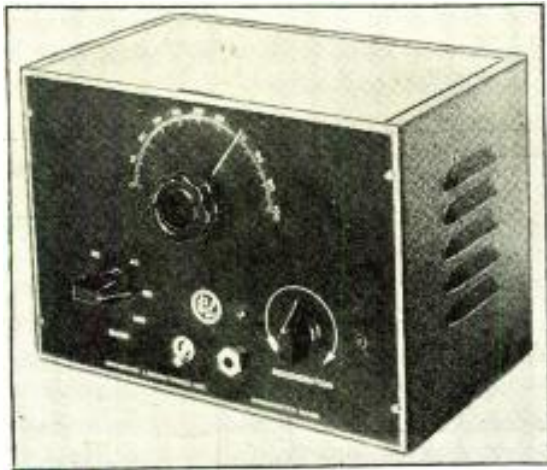


Diagram for Advanced H.F. Receiver



Both schematic and picture diagrams are given above for the construction of the Communications Type Receiver. The relay is not shown in the picture diagram; the relay terminals on the chassis connect with the transmitter. This set has a built-in monitor.



The 2-tube 5-band Amateur Receiver, complete in cabinet. The accurately calibrated tuning unit is factory-built.

An Efficient 5-Band Amateur Receiver

A dandy 2-tube receiver which operates from batteries or A.C. power. Band-spread; tunes 10, 20, 40, 80 and 160 meters.

F. J. Gaffney and E. P. Tilton, W1HDQ

designed with two fundamental considerations in view: First, to make available an efficient 5-band hand-spread amateur receiver at a fraction of the cost usually considered necessary for amateur requirements; Second, to design

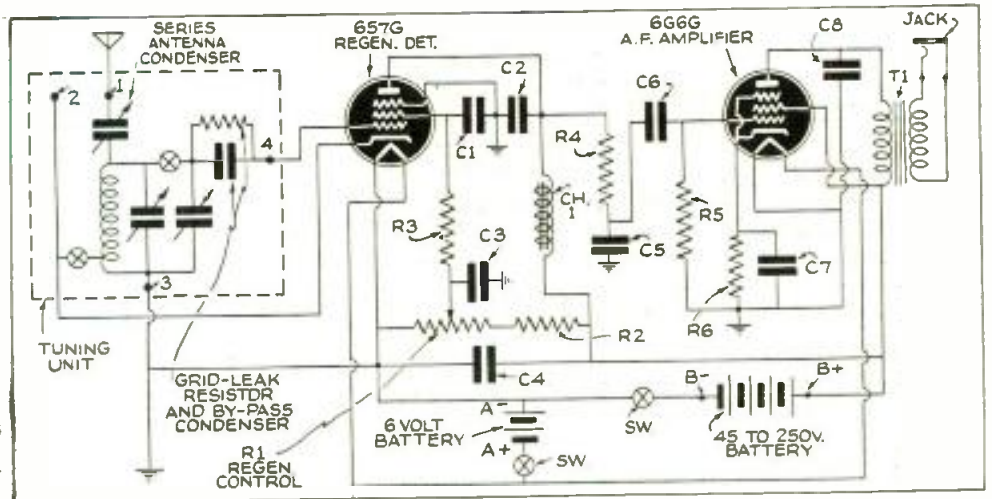
this receiver so that it was readily portable and could be readily used in emergency cases.

More and more, amateurs are organizing and building their equipment (Continued on page 371)

● IN these days of high-powered communication receivers, the progressive amateur is apt to cast a disdainful glance at a receiver as simple as an autodyne detector and one stage of audio. The results obtained with the inexpensive receiver to be described will convince even the most skeptical that a tremendous amount of pleasure can be gained from the operation of a truly quiet receiver, especially after listening to the sizzle and crackle of a powerful superhet. This is especially true on the 10- and 20-meter bands where, in most cases, the autodyne receiver will compare most favorably with the 10-tuber.

The amateur set to be described was

Simple wiring diagram of the 5-band Receiver is shown at the right. Fig. 1.

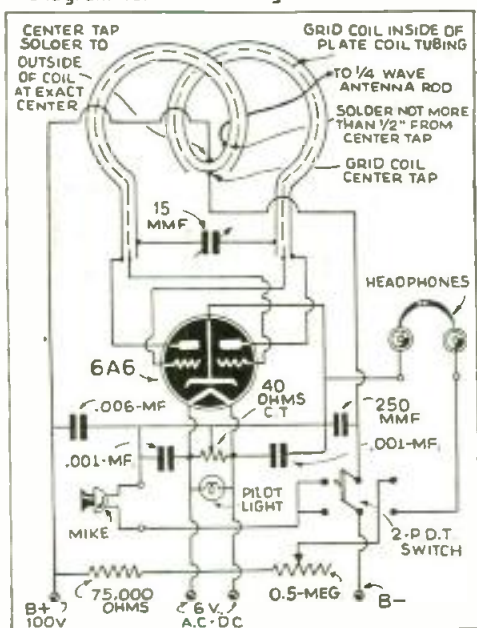


Low Cost A.C. Transceiver

M. N. Beitman

● FIVE-METER, two-way radio communication still represents the simplest way for the beginner amateur to get started.

Diagram for constructing the Transceiver.



In the past, the majority of five-meter transceivers have been built for battery operation and have considerably inconvenienced the builder who had facilities for obtaining 110-volt A.C. power. The illustrated A.C. or battery operated transceiver, built in the familiar bread-board style, represents the simplest and least expensive unit that combines high efficiency and ease of operation. The unit, of course, may be constructed in other forms and may be mounted in a small portable case for specific applications.

Since the distance covered by an ultra high-frequency transmitter depends primarily on the height of the antenna above ground and very little upon the power, a simplified low-power single-tube circuit is used. The type 6A6 dual-triode operates as a push-pull oscillator for transmission and as a push-pull super-regenerative detector for reception. The double-pole, double-throw switch employed makes the necessary circuit changes from "transmit" to "receive."

Grid modulation is employed, and the



This A.C. Transceiver is available in kit form.

microphone varies the grid bias at the modulation frequency. The transmitter will not oscillate when the microphone is flat. This phenomenon may be illustrated by holding a single turn of wire attached to a pilot light near the tank coil. With the microphone in the upright position, the unit will oscillate, and the light will light brightly. On the other hand, when the microphone is lying flat, this will not take place.

The plate coil is made of two turns of (Continued on page 375)

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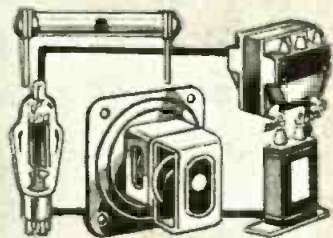
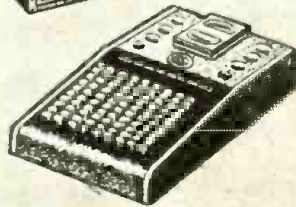
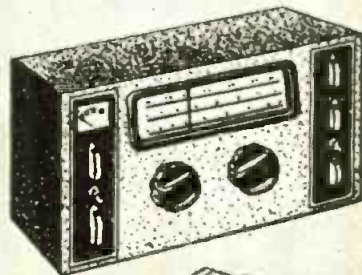
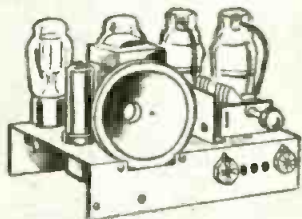
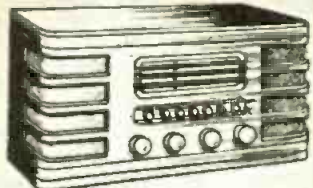
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5-Meter Super-Receiver Uses

Herman

This 5-meter receiver will prove interesting to short wave Fans and Hams; it will pick up the television sound channel. It is a complete set with built-in power-supply and loud speaker.

It is easy to tune in stations on this 5-meter receiver, and the high quality of the voice is surprising.

● RECENT activity on five meters has taken a tremendous spurt upward. The reason for this has been twofold:—unusual conditions have enabled amateurs to maintain two-way communication over several hundred miles with ease, and in a few cases distances of 1500 miles have been covered. Naturally enough, such dx conditions have attracted many hams from the lower frequencies. A second incentive for 56 megacycle operation has been the operation of the NBC television station in New York City and the station in Los Angeles. Considering the complexities of the equipment necessary for adequate reception, a larger

number of amateurs than one would expect, have gone in for this latest phase of short-wave communication.

Before we go any further, it might be well to state that the five-meter receiver to be described is definitely *not* suitable for intercepting the television images. It is, however, a thoroughly practical and economical receiver for intercepting the sound accompanying the images.

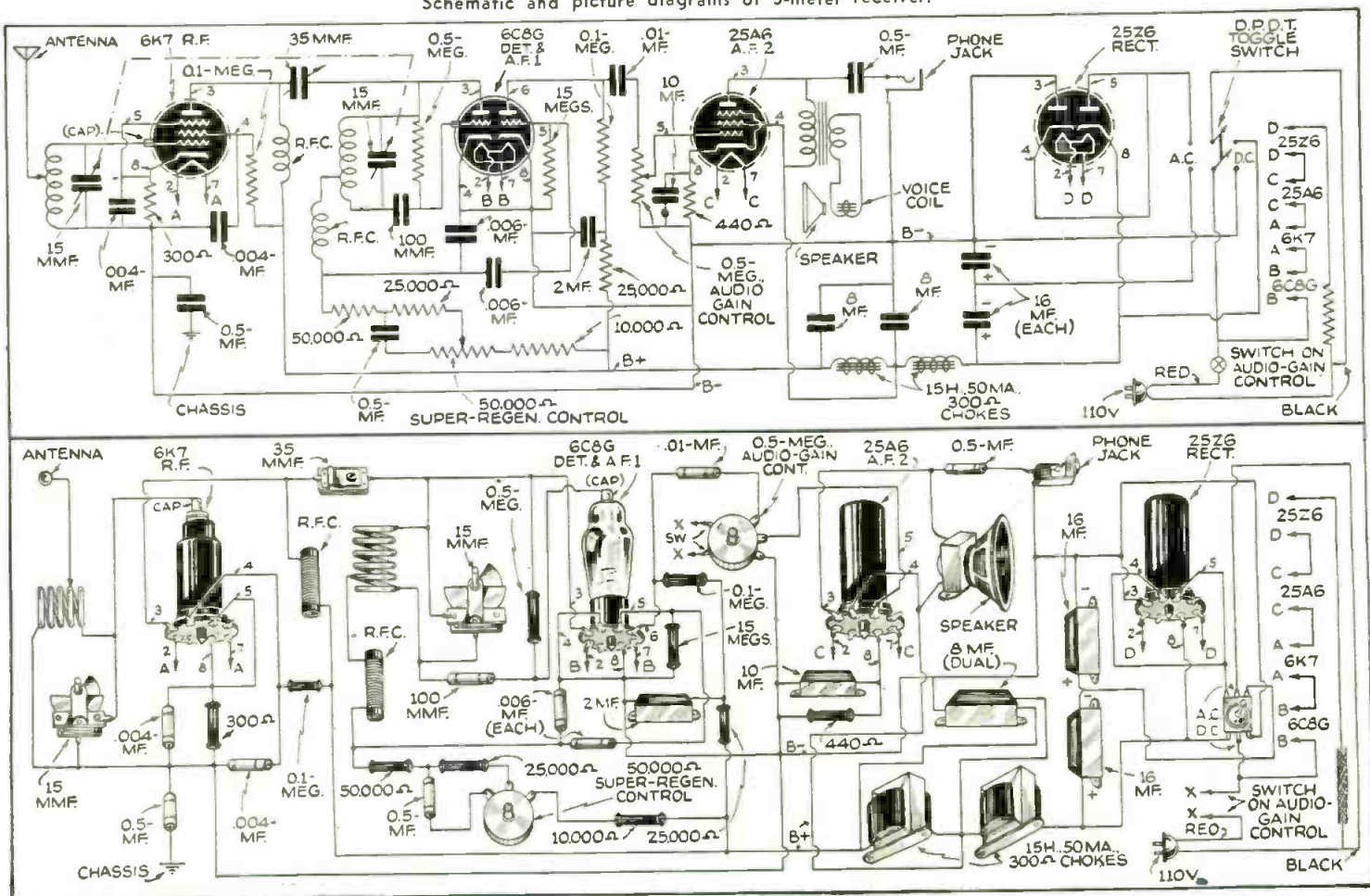
The receiver, of the *super-regenerative* type, has nothing radically new in principle, but it does contain a number of novel features to recommend it to the ultra-high frequency enthusiast. It is completely self-contained except for its antenna, having a built-in power supply and a panel mounted

speaker actuated by an audio amplifier delivering approximately 2.75 watts. The built-in power supply operates on either alternating or direct current. On alternating current the 25Z6 rectifier acts as a voltage-doubler delivering 200 volts. When used on direct current, it is necessary to throw a toggle switch which disconnects the rectifier tube from the circuit. With the lower voltage available on d.c. there is little loss in sensitivity; the main difference in performance is in the output volume.

4 Tubes Used

The receiver uses a total of four octal base tubes, a metal 6K7 as a tuned R.F. amplifier, a 6C8G double triode tube as a combination self-quenched detector and

Schematic and picture diagrams of 5-meter receiver.

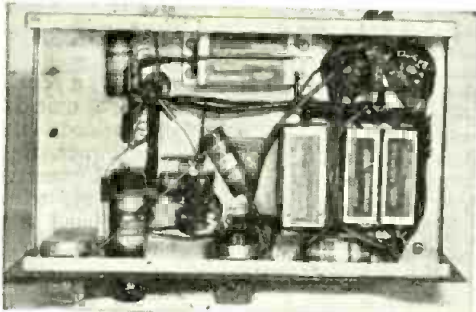


Regenerative 4 Tubes

Yellin, W2AJL

audio amplifier feeding into a 25A6 power amplifier. A 25Z6 acts as a voltage doubler when the receiver is operated on A.C.

The receiver was built around a 7 by 12 inch panel fastened to a 6½ by 11 inch chassis. The two potentiometers and the phone jack serve to hold the panel to the chassis quite firmly. A standard Bud 5½ by 7 inch interstage shield provided the shielding between the detector and R.F. amplifier. Before using it, the shield is



Note the neat appearance of the bottom of the receiver, as constructed by the author. The cost of building this job is nominal.

trimmed down to 5½ by 4¾ inches and drilled according to the dimensions shown in figure 2c. This shield serves as the mounting for the detector tuning condenser and also to support the detector tube socket holder. The socket holder, cut bent and drilled to the size shown in figure 2d, is made from the unused portion of the original shield. Figure 2a shows the placement and dimensions of all the holes on the chassis. Likewise figure 2b gives all the panel drilling dimensions, including the

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RADIO & TELEVISION

will be an

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It will contain valuable articles for the beginner as well as the advanced HAM.

speaker opening. Some difficulty may arise in drilling the speaker opening. If a fly cutter and a drill press are available, the operation will be quite painless.

R.F. Isolating Stage Essential

Super-regenerative detectors have strong radiating properties, being much more prone to cause interference with neighbor-

(Continued on page 366)








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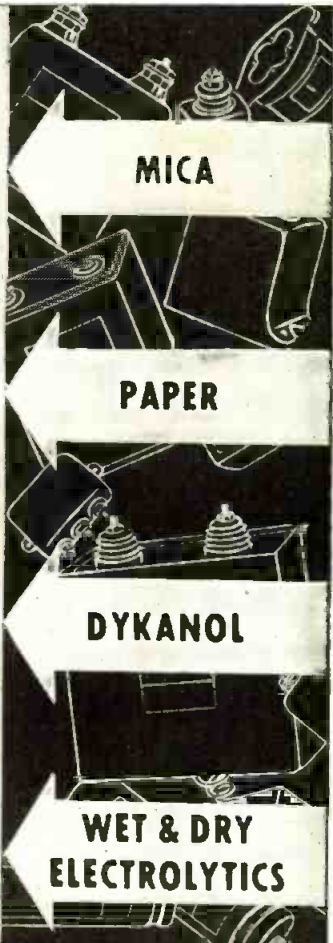


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An Interview with FRANK CARTER, W2AZ
 By H. WINFIELD SECOR

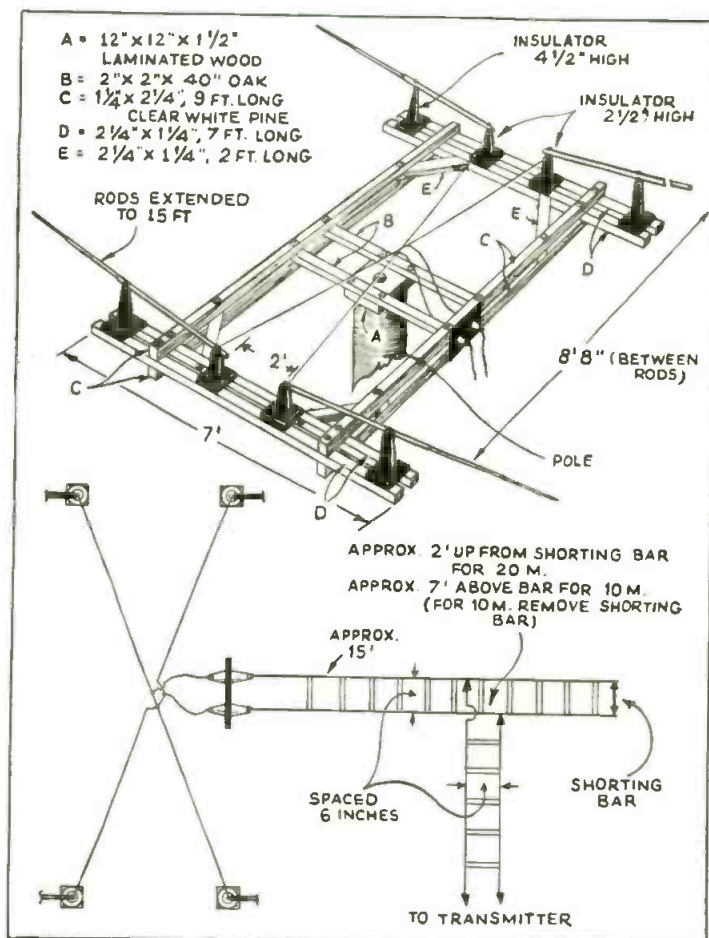
● WATCHING, as we do, for outstanding performances among the amateurs of the country, our attention was attracted by a report, in a recent number of QST, which indicated that some exceptional work was being done by Frank Carter, W2AZ, of East Rockaway, L. I. He was reported to have worked 36 zones, on twenty meters. The total number of zones is 40, so we figured that he was doing so well that a visit to his station would be of interest. It was, and how! We found that he had worked 75 different countries on twenty meter phone.

An outstanding feature, and one of great interest to every amateur who uses either *ten* or *twenty* meters—was the rotary beam used at W2AZ; it can be used on both frequencies, by the simple expedient of altering the connections from the transmission line to the matching stub.

Mr. Carter is the organizer and president of the very active organization which is doing so much to cut down all kinds of man-made interference, the *National Association for the Prevention of Radio Interference*. Amateur radio is his hobby, but he also obtains his livelihood from radio; he is the manager of the Service Department of the Ludwig Baumann Company, and it is his job to keep the owners of nearly 100,000 radios, purchased on the installment plan, happy.

The transmitter at W2AZ can be run with an input up to a full kilowatt, though it seldom is run above 800 watts. There are two

(Continued on page 362)



Construction of the rotary beam antenna at W2AZ.

Modulator for the 35 Watt Transmitter

HARRY D. HOOTON,
W8KPX



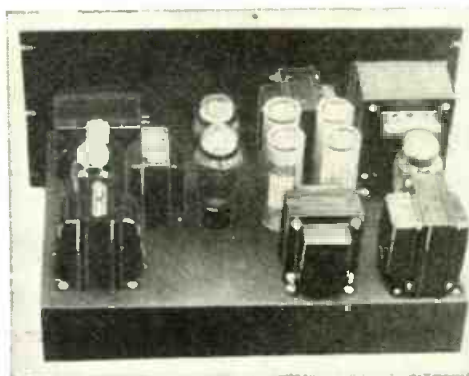
This picture shows the 35-watt transmitter at the top of the rack, while just below it appears the modulator. Cabinet seen at left of picture is the station receiver.

● RECENTLY we described the radio frequency portion of the 35-watt transmitter-exciter. The remaining standard chassis and panel section which will be described in this article, contains the power supply and the 15-watt audio unit used for plate and screen modulating the RK-39 final. All of the equipment, R.F. and A.F., has been installed in a standard, $17\frac{1}{2} \times 13 \times 20$ inch, crackle finished steel cabinet. This makes a snappy little table model rig—an ideal phone and C.W. transmitter for the 14 and 28 megacycle bands where only a very little power is required.

The modulator, as Fig. 1 "a" shows, consists of a double-button carbon microphone, transformer coupled to a 6F5G which is in turn resistance-capacity coupled to a 6F8G, with the two triode sections in parallel, driving a pair of 6L6Gs in push-pull class "A" audio. The output of the modulator is about 15 watts which is more than sufficient to 100% modulate the plate and screen of the RK-39 when running 35 to 40 watts input. The power unit shown at "b" is practically the same as that described in July issue, using a 5U4G as rectifier. The swinging choke is not absolutely necessary in a class "A" modulator circuit, but it does give better regulation under the varying load of C.W. work and is therefore very desirable. The two pairs of filter condensers are connected in series in order to eliminate any possibility of their breaking down under the normal load. The purpose of the 0.5 megohm resistors across the individual condensers is to equalize the voltage so that each condenser in the string

In the July issue, Mr. Hooton described a very interesting 35-watt transmitter for the "ham" beginner. The present article deals with the construction of a suitable phone modulator for that transmitter. The construction cost is very nominal.

will take a proportionate share; if the resistors are not used trouble may be encountered by having one condenser "blow out" repeatedly because of unequal voltage distribution across the electrolytics. The



Rear view of the modulator.

use of dry electrolytic condensers is not recommended; use wet, heavy-duty filter units with a working voltage rating of at least 550 or 600 volts. Two of the condensers must have their metal cans insulated from the chassis.

Placing the Parts

The construction of the modulator-power unit is quite simple and straightforward and no difficulty whatever should be encountered if the proper precautions are observed. The position of the various transformers, chokes, etc., is extremely important in any small, compact audio system if the A.C. hum level is to be kept down to the minimum. In the present unit each transformer and choke has been placed at right-angles with respect to its neighbor and if the specified components are used, the layout as shown in the photographs will be correct. If the constructor already has some parts of a different manufacture on hand, the following method of orientation may be used: Mount the high-voltage and filament transformers as shown and connect their primary windings to the 110 volt A.C. line. Be careful not to come in contact with the secondary terminals of the high-voltage transformer; the 800 volts will give a painful shock and is plenty high enough to be fatal in many instances. Connect a pair of headphones to the terminals of each filter choke and transformer in turn and rotate it about on the chassis until the position is found which gives the minimum hum in the phones. The use of cheap, "bargain sheet" or unshielded audio and

filter components should be avoided at all costs as these are almost certain to cause trouble in an installation of this kind. It is necessary to shield all of the leads from the microphone jack, the microphone transformer and the gain control, with copper braid suitably grounded at several points to the chassis, in order to eliminate any possibility of audio feedback or extraneous noise getting into the modulator circuit.

Tuning Up the Transmitter

The actual *tune-up* procedure of the phone transmitter is not at all complicated or difficult. Adjust the R.F. portion as outlined in July issue article, making sure that the RK-39 is receiving plenty of excitation (5 ma. grid current) but do not connect the antenna. Remove the microphone plug from its jack and turn on the modulator voltages. The 0-200 milliammeter is now plugged into the plate circuit of the 6L6G modulator tubes and the 200 ohm cathode resistor is adjusted until the plate current is about 110 to 120 milliamperes. Connect the antenna to its feed-through insulators and adjust the coupling until the RK-39 is drawing 80 milliamperes (400 volts divided by 80 milliamperes gives a 5,000 ohm load which matches the tap on the modulation transformer). Do not attempt to modulate the transmitter or operate the modulator without the proper load on the secondary of the modulation transformer; if no secondary load is presented, then the excess energy generated in the primary may cause it to either burn out or the insulation to break down. Turn up the gain

control while talking or whistling into the microphone until the RK-39 plate milliammeter needle moves slightly with the modulation. Adjust the gain to just below the point where the needle begins to move; this will give approximately 100% modulation.

If the use of a crystal or velocity type microphone is desired, it will be necessary to add another stage of pre-amplification, using a high-gain type of tube such as the 6S7G or 6J7, ahead of the 6J5G. It is also better to replace the 6J5G with either a 6C5 or a 6C5G. Because of the extremely high gain developed in such a circuit, all input and grid leads will have to be shielded carefully and a de-coupling filter must be used in the 6S7G or 6J7 plate lead. Unless the constructor has had some experience with high-gain audio equipment, it is best to stick to the double-button carbon microphone arrangement.

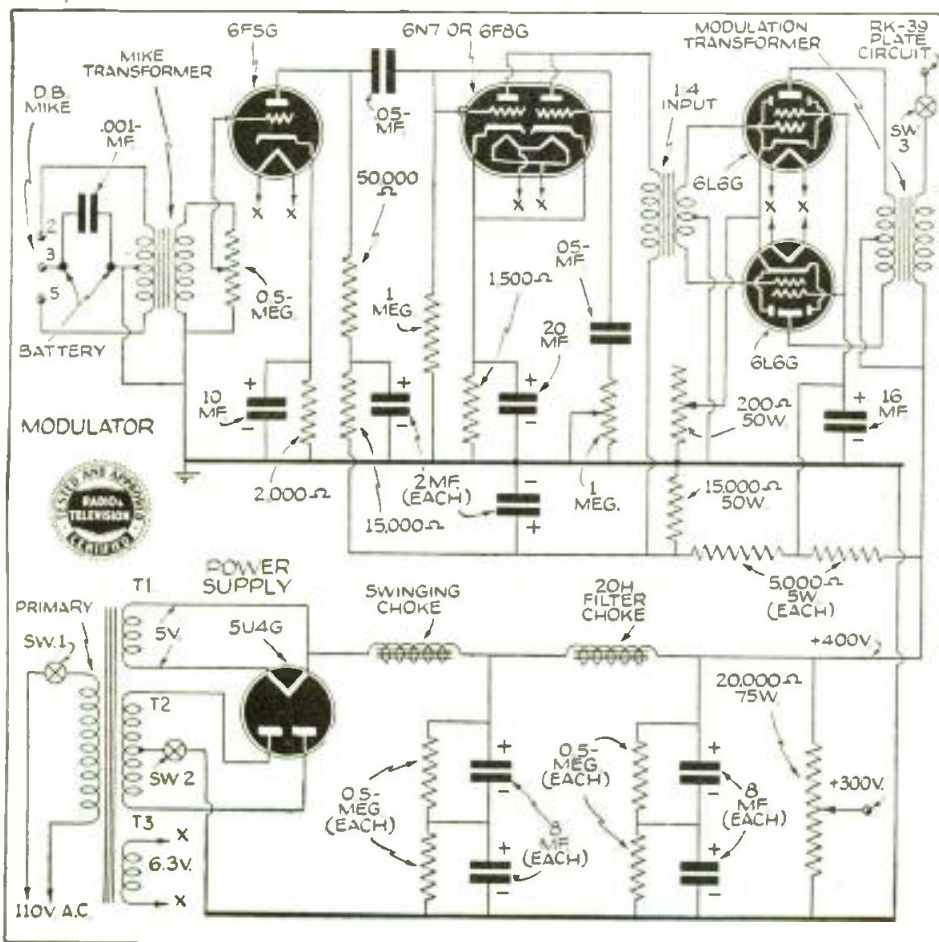
This is the concluding article in this low-power transmitter series. If the instructions have been carefully followed, no difficulty whatever should be experienced. If any additional advice or information is required, however, the author will be glad to correspond with readers who enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope with their letter. Address all letters in care of RADIO & TELEVISION.

List of Parts

I.R.C. (Resistors)

- One volume (gain) control, 0.5 megohm
- One volume (tone) control, 1 megohm
- One metallized resistor, insulated type, 50,000 ohms, 1 watt

(Continued on page 369)



The hook-up of the modulator is shown above.

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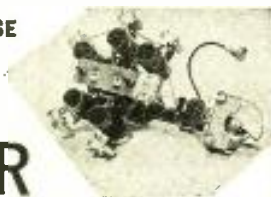
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5-Meter Super-Regenerative Receiver

(Continued from page 357)

ing and distant receivers than even the old regenerative receivers. In order to eliminate this radiation, the detector should be isolated from the antenna by a stage of R.F. The R.F. grid coil and condenser are the same size as the detector tuning combination. Both condensers have a capacity of 15 mmfd.

Acorn Tube May Be Used for R.F.

Since the tube filaments were all connected in series, all tubes used would of necessity be of the 0.3 ampere type. Thus the choice of an R.F. tube fell quite naturally to the metal type 6K7. Use of the acorn type 954 would have resulted in much greater gain, but the cost would have been greater. However, the 954 can be used instead of the 6K7 with only minor changes. The filament of the 954 would have to be shunted with a 42 ohm resistor since it has a 0.15 ampere filament. All grounds are brought to one point for each stage and then connected together by a ground bus which is then connected to the chassis by a half microfarad paper condenser. Nothing is grounded to the chassis directly. The reason for this is to eliminate the possibility of shorting the 110 volt line with a reversed line plug or of the cabinet appearing hot on D.C. with the line plug reversed. The R.F. grid coil is mounted directly on the terminals of the 15 mmfd. tuning condenser. This condenser is insulated from the panel by a bakelite washer. It might even be desirable to mount this condenser on an angle bracket instead of directly on the panel. Provision has been made for an antenna with single wire feed. If it is desired to use a doublet type of antenna, a small coupling coil of two or three turns of number 12 bus bar can be suspended from the antenna posts on the

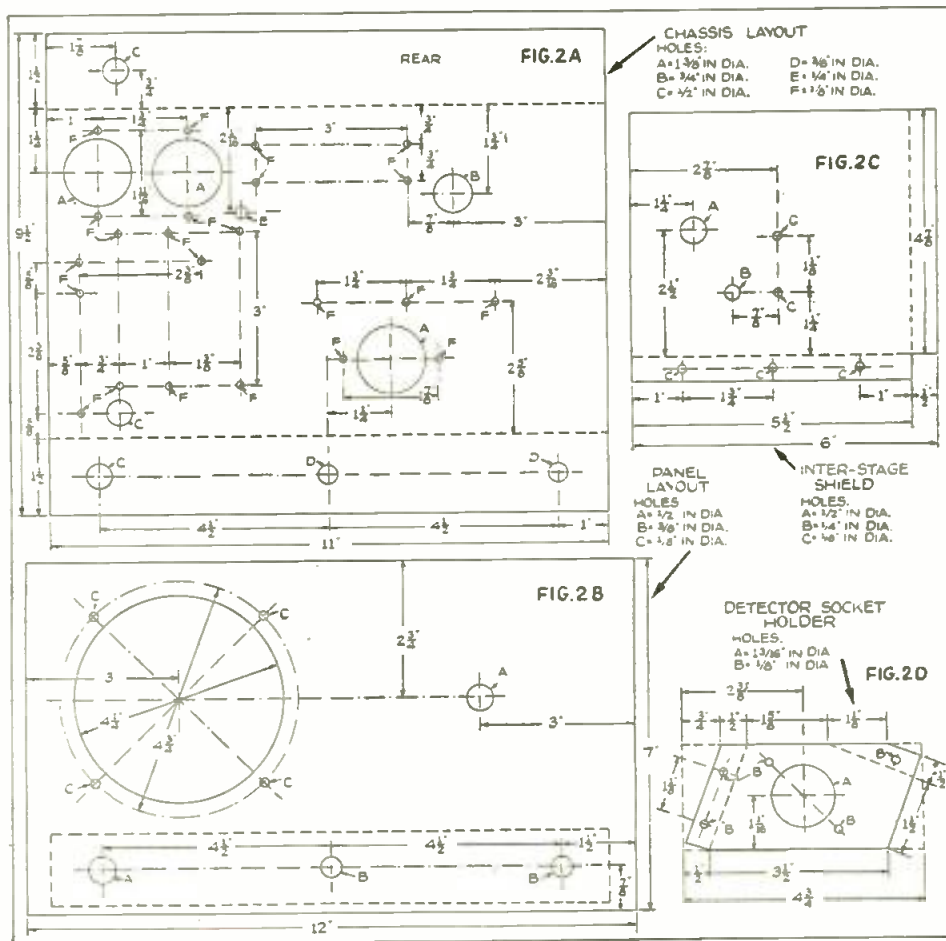
side of the cabinet. Coupling between the two coils should be varied for optimum results.

1 Tube Acts as Detector and 1st A.F.

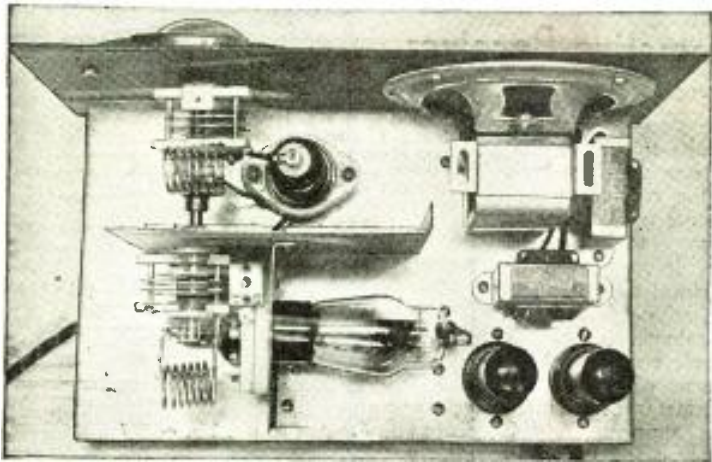
The R.F. tube is coupled to a combination detector and first stage of audio. This tube is a 6C8G which has two separate triodes in one envelope. One triode section is employed as a self-quenching detector and the other half is used as an audio amplifier. The section having both its grid and plate terminals coming out at the base of the tube is used as the detector. The other section has its grid terminal at the top of the glass envelope. Having the grid and plate terminals close together makes for a minimum of wiring, there being practically no high frequency wiring at all. A material contribution to the shortness of leads was the method of mounting the 6C8G. This was mounted in a horizontal position parallel to the panel and close to the detector tuning condenser. The bracket holding the detector tube also serves to lend added rigidity to the interstage baffle shield. As stated before, this bracket is constructed from the remainder of the interstage shield.

The detector grid-leak is mounted directly on the socket between the grid and plate terminals, while the grid condenser is wired directly between the grid and the rotor of the tuning condenser. The leads in no case are more than a quarter of an inch long. Incidentally, a little experimenting with grid-leaks will amply repay the constructor. The writer uses a 15 meg-ohm leak, but the constructor should experiment with values from 10 to 20 meg-ohms.

Both the R.F. plate choke and the detector choke coils are of the same size and of the



Details of chassis and panel.



Top view of receiver.

manufactured type having an inductance of 5.7 microhenries. The .006 mf. mica condenser bypassing the detector choke coil should be connected directly to the cathode of the 6C8G. The detector choke is connected to the third turn from the plate end of the detector tuning coil. The method of mounting this choke coil is as follows: the end of the choke connecting to the detector coil is fastened to the unused prong (No. 1) of the detector socket and a half inch length of wire is run directly from the terminal to the coil. The tap can then be easily changed from one turn to another. The other end of the choke is mounted on a single terminal insulating strip mounted on the socket. As the photo shows, this results in the choke coil being at right-angles to the detector coil. As in the R.F. stage, all grounds are brought to one point and connected to the common ground bus.

Super-Regenerative Control

Super-regeneration is controlled by a 50,000 ohm potentiometer. The voltage from this control is passed through a resistance-capacity filter to prevent common coupling between the detector and the other tubes. When first tried out the receiver had a tendency to motor-boat, but the addition of the 25,000 ohm resistor in series with the regeneration control rotor effectively squelched any such tendencies.

The .006 mf. condenser which couples the detector section of the 6C8G to the audio section may seem rather small, but it is the correct value. The new and rather novel system of *automatic biasing* is used in this audio section. The cathode is grounded, thus resulting in a minimum of hum and the bias generated across the 15 megohm grid-leak. Most tubes draw grid current even with zero grid bias. The reason for this is that electrons are emitted from the cathode at so high a velocity that they reach the grid, even without any positive potential on the grid. By employing a very large value of grid-leak and grounding the cathode, the small drop across the leak due to the minute current will provide sufficient negative bias for proper operation. Using a larger coupling condenser than that shown, will result in a momentary *blocking* when tuning in a particularly loud signal.

The grid coupling condenser and leak were placed underneath the chassis at a point beneath the detector stage and a shielded wire run to the grid cap of the tube. The use of shielded wire obviated the possibility of any hum pickup. The plate resistor has a value of 100,000 ohms, while a 2 mf. condenser and a 25,000 ohm resistor comprise the *R-C* decoupling filter. These values were chosen so that the amplifier would work on both 100 volts as would be the case where *b.c.* is used and with the higher voltage available when the receiver

is operated on *a.c.* A .01 mf. paper condenser couples the first audio stage to the 25A6 power audio stage through a 500,000 ohm potentiometer. This audio gain control and the regeneration control are completely independent of each other. There is no interaction between them; varying the audio gain will not result in a variation of super-regeneration. The audio gain control contains the line switch for turning the receiver *on* and *off*.

Phones or Speaker May Be Used

Bias for the 25A6 is derived from a 440 ohm, 5 watt wire-wound cathode resistor, by-passed by a 10 mf. electrolytic condenser. The power stage furnishes sufficient audio power to actuate the loud speaker, even on weak signals. In addition, a *phone jack* was incorporated in the receiver. However, in actual practice the loudspeaker has been used exclusively. Although the photograph shows a standard dynamic speaker with field coil, it has since been replaced with a *permanent magnet* speaker which is strongly recommended. The field coil had been connected across the rectifier output. The additional drain of the field caused a 30 volt drop in voltage when the receiver was operated on *a.c.* Since it was desired to have the maximum signal possible, the change was made to the *p.m.* speaker with a slight rise in power output. On *b.c.* however, there is no voltage drop caused by the field, since it is connected across the *b.c.* line. For those desiring to use the field coil type of dynamic, one should be used having a field resistance of 5000 ohms.

Voltage Doubler Used with Rectifier

The power-supply consists of a 25Z6 rectifier used as a *voltage doubler* on alternating current. On *b.c.* the rectifier is cut out of the circuit. Briefly operation of the voltage doubler is as follows:—on one half of the *a.c.* cycle one of the 16 mf. condensers is charged up, and on the other half of the cycle the other 16 mf. condenser is charged. The two condensers being connected in series with respect to the load, the voltages across them become additive, resulting in an output voltage of twice the *a.c.* voltage. In actual practice the output voltage is slightly less than double the *a.c.* voltage because of the current drawn by the load. Two 15 henry choke coils and two 8 mf. electrolytic condensers comprise the filter circuit. The audio power stage receives its plate voltage at the junction of the two chokes, since it does not require such highly filtered voltage. The detector, R.F. and first audio stages make use of the full filter system.

All tube filaments are connected in series with the 200 ohm resistor cord. The tube filaments should be connected in the sequence shown on the diagram. The 6C8G filament is wired so that it is nearest to ground; then come the 6K7, 25A6 and 25Z6 in the order named. The 200 ohm series resistor is contained in the special line cord which has three leads. The thickest lead is the end of the resistor and connects to one

(Continued on following page)

is operated on *a.c.* A .01 mf. paper condenser couples the first audio stage to the 25A6 power audio stage through a 500,000 ohm potentiometer. This audio gain control and the regeneration control are completely independent of each other. There is no interaction between them; varying the audio gain will not result in a variation of super-regeneration. The audio gain control contains the line switch for turning the receiver *on* and *off*.

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5-Meter Super-Regenerative Receiver

(Continued from preceding page)

side of the 25Z6 filament, the red lead connects to the switch and the black lead runs to the plate and cathode terminals of the 25Z6. Since the resistor element is distributed evenly over the entire length of the line cord, *no attempt should be made to shorten the cord by cutting it.* The entire length must be used. In operation, the cord will become warm, but not too hot to touch.

Adjusting Set for Best Reception

Once the receiver has been completely wired, a few adjustments will result in efficient operation. The receiver is turned on by advancing the combination audio gain control and line switch and the gain control advanced to its maximum clockwise position. The regeneration control is then slowly advanced in a clockwise direction. At some point a slight click or smooth plop will be heard; this indicates that the detector is oscillating; the regeneration control is advanced another few degrees when a loud rushing noise will be heard. This indicates *super-regeneration*, and at this point, the receiver is in its most sensitive condition. The Audio gain control may now be retarded if the rushing noise is too loud for comfort.

When a signal is tuned-in the rushing noise will disappear or be reduced in intensity. On strong signals it will disappear entirely, while on weak signals the noise will still be heard in the background.

Once a signal has been tuned-in the r.f. and detector circuits can be brought into resonance. This is done by changing the inductance of the coils by either compressing or expanding the coils. Incidentally, the

frequency range of the receiver can be adjusted within small limits by this operation. Although the same size coils are used by the constructor and the receiver wired exactly like the photo, some adjustment of the coils may be necessary to cover the desired frequency range. It may even be necessary to *add or subtract* a turn.

By using different size coils different frequency ranges can be obtained. As built by the writer for 56 megacycle reception, both coils consist of seven turns of number 12 bus bar, wound on a diameter of $\frac{5}{8}$ inch. For the 112 mc. range approximately 3 turns wound to a diameter of $\frac{1}{2}$ inch will be required.

List of Parts

BUD

- 1—Metal Cabinet No. 994 (7x12")
- 1—Chassis 11x6 $\frac{1}{2}$ " No. 997
- 1—Interstage shield 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ x7" No. 1256
- 2—15 mmf. variable condensers No. 565
- 2—U.H.F. r.f. chokes No. 925
- 2—Octal isortex sockets No. 959
- 2—Octal bakelite sockets No. 1063
- 1—Ceramic flexible coupling No. 795
- 2—Metal tube grid caps No. 108
- 1—Phone jack No. 233
- 1—4" black bakelite dial (vernier) No. 103B
- 2—Knobs No. 183
- 1—35 mmf. coupling cond. adjustable No. 833

SPRAGUE (Condensers)

- 2—16 mf. 200 v. type BT-162
- 1—8x8 mf. 450 v. type PTM-88
- 1—10 mf. 25 v. type BII-10
- 1—2 mf. 200 v. type BT22
- 3— $\frac{1}{4}$ mf. 600 v. type TC-5
- 1—.01 mf. type SW-11
- 1—.0001 mf. mica type 1FM-31
- 2—.001 mf. mica type 1FM-24
- 2—.006 mf. mica type 1FM-26

I.R.C. (Resistors)

- 1—440 ohms type AA
- 1—50,000 ohm potentiometer

- 1—50,000 ohm pot. type 11-123
- 1—S.P.S.T. switch No. 21
- 1—300 ohms type BT $\frac{1}{2}$
- 1—50,000 ohms type BT $\frac{1}{2}$
- 2—100,000 ohms type BT $\frac{1}{2}$
- 2—25,000 ohms type BT $\frac{1}{2}$
- 1—10,000 ohms
- 2—15 megs.

RAYTHEON (Tubes)

- 1—6K7
- 1—6C8G
- 1—25A6
- 1—25Z6

OXFORD-TARTAK

- 1—5" P.M. or 5000 ohm field loud-speaker

STANCOR

- 2—15 henry chokes 50 ma. No. c-1277

Miscellaneous

- 1—D.P.D.T. toggle switch
- 2—Lengths No. 12 bus bar
- 1—200 ohm resistor line cord

Local HAM Gossip

(Continued from page 343)

day on 5 meters. With 65 gallons of lemonade and all the prizes gone, we QRT for the summer and closed the radio shack up until Sept. 1st. I am sure from what the gang had to say, they will want a "field meet" this fall. This one will be better and bigger than the last, *I hope*. One hundred and fifty-three attended—all free! The radio clubs paid for the lemonade and drinks; the prizes were given by Warren Radio Co., 1110 Madison Ave., Harry's Auto Supply Co., Adams St., Toledo Radio Spec. Co., on 10th St., and the Lifetime Mike Co., on Madison Ave. The total value of the prizes was \$30. Joe Solark was chairman of the group of TUHFA and TRC members that made the lemonade.



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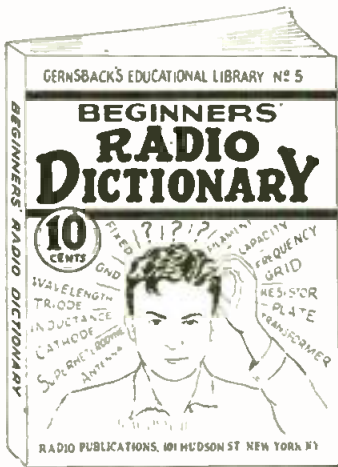
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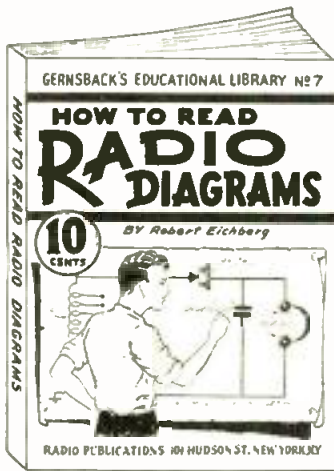
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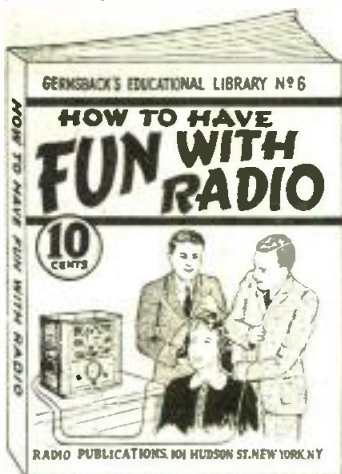
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Fourth Silver Trophy Award

(Continued from page 345)

at Columbia University taking an E.E. course. Got interested in radio about 10 years ago and progressed through the xtal sets, battery sets and the like. Got my ticket in 1934, and got on 160 phone with a pair of 59's, suppressor modulated. Since I was cursed with an experimental nature, the rig was rapidly rebuilt and torn down 19 times in one year! I tried suppressor, grid, and plate modulation, controlled carrier and tried out several antennas. I had the best luck with a 250 ft. center-fed job. We didn't use over 60 watts on 160. In 1935 I got my class A and stuck the rig on 14 mc. phone. As you can guess, the parallel 46's didn't put out much, so the rig was ripped down. I rebuilt it 9 times before I was satisfied! I tried 46's, an 825, 203A, 242A, 211, 852, and finally ended up with the 805. After this I got ideas on oscillators and tried all of 'em. After I blew up a couple of xtals with hi-powered oscillators, I decided the 41 pentode oscillator was best. I messed around with buffers, and finally stuck in a RK39 as a doubler with 600 v. on it. It works wonderfully, and I can drive the 805 to 50 grid mills. During this time I messed around on 56 mc. with W2HXD (he heard the five meter sigs of G5BY a few years ago). I also tried 20, 80, and 160 c.w.

The receiver has only been changed about five times, but it seems to be OK now.



That's about all there is about the station. I've handled a little flood tfc. (traffic) and took messages from the "Morrisey," W10XDA, but I don't regularly do much tfc. handling. My main interest, when the rig is in working order, is to experiment with antennas and work DX on phone.

Just thought I'd let you know about S.W.&T. I've been reading it since it came out every other month. Remember?

What Do You Think?

(Continued from page 344)

2:17 a.m. PST so I'm hooking up with a Canadian friend, a 200 watt, who comes in here like a house afire! I take in my antenna when I have him on! (Say, a lot of us are fair liars too.) But I get good reception here year around; east is good too. We, my pardner and I, are busy day and nite; not much money, but boy we "go to town" anyway. We trade around quite a lot and borrow each other's stuff.

Say, "ed," pardon me taking your time to spill the ink, but I thought I should tell you what S.W.&T. has meant to us here on the west coast. Through your magazine, I've bought other publications too.

A photo of the shack soon—it's somewhat "tore up" at present, so the delay is necessary.

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himself; otherwise, he can contact almost anyone in the radio line to help, especially if you happen to be a shut-in."

"Even though arthritis has made it virtually impossible for me to move around," said Pop, "I still manage to work my fingers and with them I am able to press buttons. And so when I wish to go on the air I snap the button just below the microphone. Should anything go wrong with the set, it is so constructed that it shuts off automatically. There really isn't much to operating it, but never-the-less one needs a background for it. While all the building was taking place, in the meantime I was busy being taught the ABC's of shortwave. I listened intently to the boys whenever they made the slightest remark related to this field. I read several text books and after about 11 months of study I thought I was sufficiently prepared to take a test for a short-wave operator's license."

"They certainly must have had a swell time carrying your bed up the stairs leading to the Federal Communications Commissioner's office when you went to take your test," I commented.

"Why, no. I didn't even have to leave the house. I simply wrote to the Commission stating that I would like to take a test, but that I was a shut-in. And so I filled out a Class C application, which signifies that a person is unable to come down for the examination; therefore, the Commission sends an amateur out to your home to give you the test—that is if you live within a radius

The World Comes to My Room

(Continued from page 336)

of 100 miles. There is no expense involved in taking the test."

Continuing, he says, "And now you come to the point where you face the music. You have your set; you've been studying pretty hard, and now the test. Two sentinels guard the sacred entrance. They stop you and ask, 'Halt who goes there?' The first one is the code—which requires one to be able to take the Continental Morse Code at 13 words a minute. You must pass this in order to take the next step—a question and answer quiz to determine whether or not you are thoroughly acquainted with the mechanical parts of a transmitter. If you are successful in both, the sentinels step aside and cheerfully utter, 'You may pass.' But sometimes these tests are like big trailers out on a highway—you fail to pass them and I fell into this category. But shucks, after one waits three months, he can try again."

Conducts "Coal Business" by Telephone

Brring! Brring! It's Pop's telephone—a cradle type that is affixed to a bracket. When this bracket spreads out towards him, the receiver comes to rest at a point slightly over his ear and the mouthpiece at an angle below his chin. This eliminates the holding

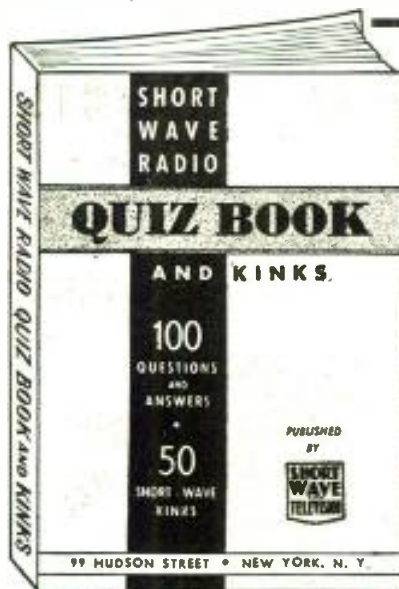
of the telephone, which he is unable to do. The call happened to be an order—a coal order. For while radio is his hobby, he never-the-less keeps abreast in business. At first he used to sell post cards, automobile polish and several other items, but now a sign out on his porch reads, "Coal orders taken." During the past few years he has built up a lucrative business.

Thrilled by First "Out-of-Town" Contact

"And the stirring interest in getting your first out-of-town station; and then those from other states. I felt chills go up and down my spine. Here I was lying in bed, talking to a fellow away down in Texas hundreds of miles away, who perhaps may be a wealthy ranchman or just a cow rustler. A half hour later I tuned in a lad in Alabama, who earns his bread pickin' the little balls of cotton."

In addition to broadcasting over his amateur station, Pop has also been on the air over a commercial station WJAY (now WCLE), Cleveland.

Shut-ins and other listeners bombarded the station with letters and cards. They had found a leader. They liked to listen to his advice and all agreed that it was an inspirational program. Pop's card file has increased steadily and he has added people from all walks of life to his list, including such celebrities as Gene and Glenn, radio stars, Joe E. Brown, Tony Wons and many others.—Courtesy OUTWITTING HANDICAPS MAGAZINE.



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